

- **EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser News

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"Your Hometown Newspaper"

Volume XXII Number 50

December 16, 1999

Agawam's Auxiliary Police...

## Contributing To Town's Security

by Kathy Shepard  
Feature Editor

There are 35 men and women who comprise the Agawam Auxiliary Police Department. This organization does a lot of volunteer work, such as managing Memorial Day traffic, patrolling schools and parks, Borgatti Field, and St. John's Field. Their uniforms are the same as those of full-time police, except that the badges and arm patches say "Auxiliary."

The Auxiliary Police also help on Halloween weekend, contributing time two days before and through Halloween night. "We work every Friday night, riding with a regular police officer. We are not paid for this time," explains Jerry Scoville, captain of the Agawam Auxiliary Police Force.

To become an Auxiliary policeman or policewoman, a person pays for their own training, uniforms, gun, and other equipment. "There is an investment of approximately \$2,000 to start out," Scoville estimates. Training involves 16 Saturdays (through the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Council). The training is held at the Western Massachusetts Police Academy in Feeding Hills.

The graduates of the program must then attend 16 hours of CPR, 40 hours of first aid, and eight hours of handgun training. For these post-graduate essentials, the Auxiliary Police provide their own trainers, who have gone to the Police Academy to become certified instructors.

Police Chief Robert Campbell said of them, "The Auxiliary Police are a valuable asset to our town. We have a regular force of 51, and there would be times we could not supply the safety and security of our town without the Auxiliary. They are a tremendous supplement to our force."

### Donates 100 Hours Per Year...

Each Auxiliary patrol person donates 100 hours per year to the town for training and police work. They are recertified every three years in the service class, while shooting, CPR, and first aid training are repeated yearly.

When asked why people are willing to contribute such significant amounts of time and money, Scoville surmises. "It's a stepping stone for young people who want to find a career in police work. If they decide not to go do that for some reason, they can still do the Auxiliary work part-time, just because they enjoy it."

The Auxiliary Police do get paid for some detail. For example, they are on a call list, and once the full-time list has been exhausted, the Auxiliary Police are called in. As captain, Scoville handles the designation of assignments. Examples might be duty at Riverside Park or a construction detail, or maybe an Agawam High soccer or football game.

During the 1980's when the Connecticut River flooded across River Road, Auxiliary Police helped with traffic control, keeping people from going down flooded Leonard Street. They helped to remove some people from Roberta Circle and got them to safer areas, checked on people still in their homes, and kept people away from the area. This was all done voluntarily.

They have just one fundraising event during the year which pays for ammunition, shoulder patches and badges, and "walkie-talkie" radios (they

SEE AUXILIARY POLICE - Page 6...



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM AUXILIARY POLICE DEPARTMENT (pictured above) are a most valuable asset to the town of Agawam. The Auxiliary provides excellent training to those individuals who are interested in the field of law enforcement. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

## "What Kind Of Trees Are Those?"



EACH YEAR, Bob and Muriel Fearn, employees of Glen Gary Tree Farm on Shoemaker Lane, invite children from an area pre-school for a tractor ride and a tour of the farm. The hour-long tour includes identifying different kinds of trees, a storytelling session, and a "snack time" with hot chocolate provided by Glen Gary and other munchies supplied by the school. (See related photos in "Spotlight On Business.") Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



# Six Flags Coming To New England

## Enormous Expansion Completes Transformation of Riverside Park

A world-class Six Flags regional theme park is coming to New England. A long-talked-about project that will now become a reality, Six Flags New England will open its gates at the former Riverside Amusement Park on Main Street, Agawam, in May.

Plans for one of the largest expansions in theme park history were unveiled at the Agawam Park last week. This year's expansion will complete an unprecedented four-year, \$100-million transformation of the storied New England Park. The latest expansion will add eight new rides and attractions, as well as two new themed sections.

"The magnitude of the transformation at Riverside the past four years has basically resulted in the creation of a whole new park. When this year's expansion is completed, the park will offer the unique thrills and family fun of Six Flags," commented Kieran Burke, CEO of Premier Parks, the company that owns Six Flags Theme Parks.

### BLOCKBUSTER NEW RIDES

Three stunning new roller coasters headline the long list of new rides and attractions planned for 2000. "Nothing defines the Six Flags brand of high thrills more than roller coasters. Six Flags has led the industry in introducing cutting edge roller coaster technology. The addition of three more coasters in 2000 solidifies Six Flags New England's position as a world-class thrill park," Burke said.

New England's biggest, tallest, fastest, and longest hyper coaster will debut in 2000 at Six Flags New England. **Superman - Ride of Steel** is the focal point of a new 12-acre section. The gigantic coaster will cast a long and imposing shadow over the entire park as it stretches skyward nearly 22 stories. "A 221-foot drop into a tunnel cutout 13 feet below the earth begins two minutes and 30 seconds of heart-pounding suspense and thrills never before seen in New England," noted Tim Black, vice-president and general manager of Six Flags New England.

Hyper coasters are also referred to as speed coasters due to the lightning speed they can achieve. Besides soaring breathtakingly high in the sky, **Superman - Ride of Steel** at Six Flags New England will reach speeds of 70 mph on some sections of the huge mile-long track, which is filled with drops, twists, and high bank turns.

Adding to the experience of Six Flags New England's newest blockbuster roller coaster is a theme presentation around the popular DC Comics superhero **Superman**. A long-term licensing agreement with Warner Bros. consumer products and DC Comics allows Six Flags to use the cartoon characters and DC Comics superheroes in theme presentations and live show productions.

A new forwards and backwards steel roller coaster will be added to the Park's already strong lineup of roller coasters for 2000. The new roller coaster is named **Flashback** to emphasize the forward and backward element of thrill produced by this big-league ride.

Riders are taken on a suspenseful ride through a series of loops and twists before careening up a tall incline. With faces upward to the sky, the incline becomes a decline and riders are launched a second time backward through the same maze of twisted steel track. "This is one of those roller coasters that will fool you when you just look at it. It is quite a strong ride that can really deliver some stomach-churning thrills," Black noted.

A family-oriented roller coaster called **Poison Ivy's Twisted Train** is also being added to the Park. "The variety of rides and attractions ranging from the wild to the mild ensures Six Flags New England will have something for every member of the family," Black said.

**Night Wing**, a first of its type horizontal flying machine, a twisted dark ride through the world of the demented villain, the **Joker**, and **Scream**, the Y2K version of the Hellevator outfitted with three supercharged turbo drop towers, are under construction. **Scream**, the new generation free-fall drop ride, shoots people 20 stories in the air and then rockets them back to earth.

### NEW THEMED SECTION

A new 12-acre section of the new Six Flags New England is being built along the banks of the Connecticut River. "This will be an absolutely gorgeous section of the Park (where the former Riverside Speedway was located)," Black commented. The new section will feature themed restaurants like the DC Comics Diner, the first air-conditioned restaurant in the park. This restaurant will have a deck with a gorgeous view of the Connecticut River.

In addition to **Superman - Ride of Steel**, several

more new rides and attractions will be built in this section. "We've been extremely thoughtful in the overall design of this new section to take full advantage of the natural beauty of the area, particularly as it relates to the Connecticut River," Black noted.

**Looney Tunes Movie Town** will premiere at the opening gala for the new Six Flags New England in the spring. This large new section will feature rides and attractions dedicated to kids and families. The entire section will carry a vibrant and festive **Looney Tunes** theme. This will be a special place where kids can meet **Bugs Bunny**, **Daffy Duck**, **Tweety**, **Taz**, **Sylvester**, and **Foghorn Leghorn** and see them perform their popular 50's musical entitled "What's Up Rock."

### BATMAN THRILL SPECTACULAR

The famous **Batman** will make a dramatic debut at the new Six Flags New England, starring in the explosive production, **Batman Thrill Spectacular**. This high-energy, action-packed live show is filled with stunning special effects. The captivating show is performed on a set resembling a giant Hollywood soundstage. **Batman** crushes his archenemies in the show, ensuring good triumphs over evil once again.

A new front entry plaza is being constructed at the base of the pedestrian bridge. "The new plaza will be convenient for our guests and make a bold statement to set the right tone for a fun-filled day at the new Six Flags New England," Black said.

"People will be amazed at the spectacular additions this year to Six Flags New England and the sheer magnitude of the transformation. It will be a whole new experience bursting with the pulsating excitement and thrills that make Six Flags the most powerful and popular regional theme park brand in the country," Burke concluded.

Six Flags Theme Parks is part of Premier Parks Inc., the world's largest regional theme park company with a total of 35 parks in the United States, Europe, and Latin America. Six Flags parks serve 17 of the 25 largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

The parks annually host more than 45 million guests worldwide. Premier Parks is a publicly-held corporation with corporate offices in New York City and Oklahoma City. The Company's stock trades on the NYSE under the symbol: PKS.

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FEEDING HILLS, MA





# The Sweetness Of Christmas

## Giovanni's Italian Pastry & Coffee Shop

Specializing in Pastry & Custom Cakes

*Celebrating Our Second Holiday Season.  
Serving The Families Of Agawam*

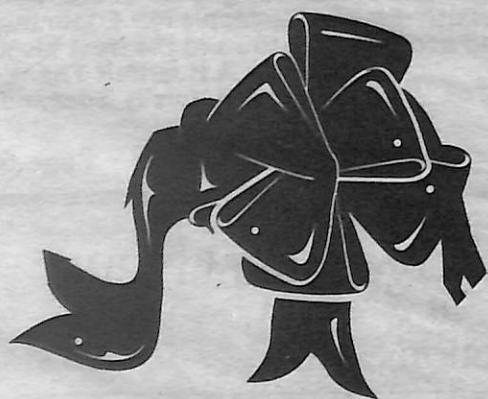


*THE PROUD MEMBERS OF THE RUSSO FAMILY, owners of Giovanni's Italian Pastry & Coffee Shop: Bruno, Teresa, and Tony.*



*Order Ahead For All Of  
Your Holiday Needs*

719 Main Street  
Agawam Center  
**789-8900**



### Holiday Hours:

Monday—Saturday, 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.  
Sunday, 8 A.M. - 2 P.M.  
Christmas Eve, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
Christmas Day, 8 A.M. - 11 A.M.  
New Year's Eve, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
New Year's Day — Closed



*SANTA LOVES GIOVANNI'S and is greeted by Russo family members Tony, Teresa, and Giovanni Russo, and employee Marie Buendo. The Carriveau kids — Cialyn, Tavalea, and Peter Jr. — say that pastry from Giovanni's is on their Christmas list from Santa.*





## Letters To The Editor

### A Notice To All Businesses In The Town Of Agawam

#### To The Editor:

We need your help and you need our help. A non-profit group called ABCs is being formed to implement a co-op/mentor group involving local businesses and Middle School students. The purpose of this group is to introduce Middle School students to varied occupations to stimulate their interests in finding gainful employment in post-high school years.

When a high school freshman is asked to decide on his or her major, will they be prepared to make such an important decision at that time without exposure to the workday duties of the field they might choose? Will this same student make a decision, pick a college, start college, and drop out or finish college only to discover this is not for them?

How many high school students do you know that can honestly say that they know what they want to do with the rest of their life? How many college graduates do you know that are not in the field they studied or are not happy with their job in their chosen field?

One of the purposes of ABCs is to introduce Middle School students to certain aspects of employment in our hometown. This is a very important part of keeping families together during this time of huge corporations that gobble up workers and spit them out as soon as a younger or more talented replacement comes along. This situation, in many cases, leaves a good worker in a situation in their late forties — away from his or her roots with a young family to support, a mortgage, trying to save for the kids' education to start the cycle all over again — and, unfortunately, with a pink slip.

Where does someone in this situation go? Back home to class reunions, telling everyone how well they could have done ... if they had that break? Or do they stay where they are and somehow make ends meet by taking mediocre jobs to keep the kids in fancy clothes so they can impress their classmates? You get the picture; this is a pattern we are trying to break with this program.

We are asking you, AS BUSINESS OWNERS AND MANAGERS, to think very seriously about the source of your future workforce. Now, at the end of the year, might be a good time to ask yourself a few questions:

1. Do you have a written job description for all of your employees?
2. Could you produce a package that would describe your service/product to a potential customer?
3. Could you produce a similar package for a potential employee?
4. In the package described above (number 3), how would you attract possible employees?
5. What would happen to your business if you were no longer able to manage it?
6. Have you talked to others in your family about passing your business on to the next generation?
7. How would you go about this process?
8. Are others receptive to your plans?

Please answer the following questions as if your own son's or daughter's future was at stake—IT IS!

1. Is there any part of your business that could be handled SAFELY by a Middle School student with proper instruction/supervision?

Don't forget computers—these kids can teach us all about them.

2. Would you be willing to have a student come to your business for a few hours a week on a co-op basis to help you set-up your computer programs?

3. Would there be any part of your business that would be unsafe for a student to take part in if properly supervised?

4. Would you be willing to spend time with someone that was assigned/volunteered to help in your business away from work (sports, field trips, just talk/rapping)?

5. Would you participate in a job fair type of presentation at Middle School aimed at exposing students to your particular line of work?

6. If your presentation is interesting enough to spike interest in one or two young people, would you be willing to work with them in a way that would be unique to each situation?

7. Do you feel the schools are doing all that can be done at this time to prepare our future leaders for everyday living?

8. What suggestions do you have that would help our schools develop a practical-skilled labor force for the future?

No matter what is taught in school, we will not change the fact that in the future, as well as today, our great country needs brain surgeons and people that work at McDonald's and everyone in between. PLEASE, help us with this. We want the best workers, no matter what their profession, to hail from Agawam, work in Agawam, live and raise families in Agawam, and grow old in Agawam.

Please send your comments/suggestions to:

ABCs  
c/o Charlie Granger  
19 Orlando St.  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

### Residents Near Riverside Are In For A Not-So-Thrilling Ride

#### To The Editor:

In last week's *Union-News*, I read with disbelief that Riverside Park will be renamed Six Flags New England. The president of the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau said that the name Six Flags is well known and raises the bar for our region. Premier Parks Chairman Kieran Burke said that the name will enhance the park's reputation and appeal, adding that Six Flags stands for "thrills, size, magnitude."

Size and magnitude are precisely the things that our town does *not* need. If over 1.4 million visitors came to the park last year, then next year it is likely, with the name change, that thousands more will overrun our community of approximately 28,000 inhabitants.

Many of these visitors will come to the park by way of the already heavily-traveled South End Bridge, which is scheduled to undergo repairs in the next year or two. As pointed out by Lance Farber of Main Street, traffic congestion will intensify during the repair period.

Agawam town officials who authorized the rash expansion of the park should hang their heads in shame. If the Six Flags name delivers the anticipated volume of visitors, then many residents living on the approach roads to the park will be in for a not-so-thrilling ride.

Mike Marieb  
Feeding Hills

### Are We Supposed To Be Happy With The "New" Riverside?

#### To The Editor:

"Six Flags New England." Are the residents of Agawam supposed to be happy about our old, small, quiet, local amusement park being "appointed" as a *major* theme park? I, for one, am not the least bit happy. Do the owners realize that the only access road to this park is through residential neighborhoods?

Being a resident of a street off Main Street that has no other exit, this news makes me cringe. The improvements made by Riverside last year did improve the traffic situation as far as Main Street not being a parking lot every weekend. But, there is now a much higher volume of continuous, non-stop traffic that doesn't seem to end.

Have the park officials and town officials taken into consideration that the residents living on and off Main Street have a very difficult time getting out of their own streets or driveways on the weekends, and now with a MAJOR theme park, probably even on weekdays?

We do not have a traffic light or a police officer to aid us in exiting our street. We do not have another way out of our street, and sometimes trying to exit on Main Street in either direction can be a nightmare. The visitors to the park are not

sensitive to our situation; they just want to get to the park as soon as they can, so they just zoom by us, as we inch our way onto Main St., hoping some kind soul will let us out.

We have lived in Agawam for 22 years and have loved living in the center of town until recently. I would rather put up with the noise of the racecars on Saturday nights than deal with all the traffic every day in the summer.

Taking a walk on beautiful Main Street is no longer a pleasure, with busses smelling up the air and heavy traffic zooming by. How I long for the Riverside of old! OR for the consideration of those who would bring this change to our neighborhood.

Jean Aloisi  
Agawam

### AHS Cheerleaders Need \$\$\$ To Attend Nat'l Competition

#### To The Editor:

The Agawam varsity cheerleaders have recently won the Massachusetts State Cheerleading Championship. They have also qualified to compete at the U.C.A. National High School Championship in Orlando, Florida.

In order to make this possible, the girls must raise \$20,000 by February 1st. The cheerleaders and Booster Club are now in the process of planning several fundraisers and are looking to area businesses and the community to help us out.

We will be holding a Pasta Supper on January 9, 2000 at the Italian Sportsman Club. Pre-sold tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from any of the varsity cheerleaders and coaches. Tickets at the door will be \$6; kids 10 and under are \$3.

The dinner will begin at 4:00 p.m. with continuous servings until 8:00 p.m.

We are also selling tickets for a bus trip down to Foxwoods Casino on January 15th. The ticket price is \$20 per person and includes round-trip bus fare, \$5 worth of Keno, and a \$5 food voucher. The trip is approximately six hours and we will be leaving at 4:00 p.m. from the Agawam High School parking lot. If you would like to make a donation, you can make your check payable to the AHS Cheerleader Booster Club and mail to Ms. Diane DeLuca, 78 Nicole Terrace, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

For further information on the Casino Trip, please call Irene Lemieux at 789-3071 or Donna Bodurtha at 786-4351. The AHS varsity cheerleaders and Booster Club wish to thank you all for your kind wishes and support. A special thanks to the Italian Sportsman Club for hosting this event.

Sincerely,  
AHS Cheerleader Booster Club

### Eddie Santaniello Deserves Praise For His Soccer Efforts

#### To The Editor:

The Agawam varsity soccer team would like to extend our sincere thanks to Eddie Santaniello for coaching our summer PVSL soccer program. The team earned a 12-2-1 record and made it to the semifinals in a very competitive league.

We appreciate the warm-up suits, calzones, pizza, and most of all, your time and effort. You displayed a total commitment to us and helped mold us into better people because of it.

Congratulations on being voted as the "Jeff McCarl Award" winner. It's people like Eddie that are bringing soccer in our town to the next level.

A Heartfelt Thank You,  
Agawam Varsity Soccer Team

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...



## The Agawam Advertiser•News

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

## Jr. Women's Club Says Thanks For Supporting Santa Breakfast

### To The Editor:

The Agawam Junior Women's Club wishes to thank all those who attended and supported its Santa Breakfast. The breakfast was the club's most-attended event since the club started sponsoring the breakfast.

The club would like to especially thank Hood and the Lions Club for their donations, and congratulate the winner of the Pokemon raffle - Steven Cruz.

Through the support of all who helped out and the community for attending, the club is able to raise funds it needs to support the events to assist our community. Events such as the Holiday Basket Program, which provides food and toys to less fortunate Agawam families.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

Agawam Junior Women's Club

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM PUBLIC AUCTION

In accordance with Section 39A, Chapter 255 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 P.M. on December 30, 1999 at the Premises of Ace Auto Body, 1363 Main Street, Agawam, Massachusetts in order to satisfy the Lien of Ace Auto Body for Towing and Storage Charges.

Vehicle — 1990 Ford Escort; VIN — 1FAPP9197LT106420; Name — Robert Goff.

Vehicle — 1986 Chevrolet Camaro; VIN — 1G1FD87F3GN142895; Name — Todd Hoessler.

Vehicle — 1993 Buick Regal; VIN — 2G4WB54L4P1434339; Name — David White.

From the office of:

Warren N. Schreiber

181 Park Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089

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Lic. No. 101

Published: December 16, 1999

\* \* \*

All the hometown news  
with us ... AAN!!!

\* \* \*

## Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas

Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

## Some Important Financial Information Regarding The Holyoke Soldiers' Home

The Home provides both outpatient and long-term care for veterans. Paul Morin has been doing an outstanding job as commandant.

We receive many questions on eligibility to use the facility. At a recent meeting, Mr. Morin provided veterans' agents with a breakdown of charges for the long-term care units.

There is no charge for veterans with 0 to \$200 income; from \$200 through \$665, the formula is "income minus personal exemption"; and for income of \$665 and over, the cost is \$465 per 31-day month. These rates are for single veterans.

For married veterans, there is no charge for 0 to \$1,000; for \$1,000 to \$1,464, it's "income minus personal exemption"; and for \$1,465 and over, the cost is \$465 per 31-day month.

If you would like a brochure, please call our office or stop by. There is a waiting list, so if a veteran may need long-term care within months or a year, I believe it is a good idea to get the veteran's name on the list by contacting the Soldiers' Home at 532-9475 for an application.

The basic eligibility requirement is that veterans with non-service-connected disabilities who have served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. for 90 consecutive days (one of which was during wartime) and received an Honorable Discharge, are eligible to receive services at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

They do have some outpatient services as well. Contact the Home for instructions in obtaining a numbered card that you will need for making appointments. Once again, that number is 532-9475.

This week, we are publishing our list of World War II veterans whose last names begin with the letter "R" and who resided in Agawam when they entered the military. These will be included on our Honor Roll.

If you fail to see the name of a veteran that should be included, we will need his discharge and verification of residency in Agawam at the time of entry.

RACHEK, PAUL J.  
RACICOT, LEO W.  
RAISON, NEAL A.  
RAMAH, ALBERT  
RAMAH, GEORGE  
RAMAH, THOMAS L.

RAMAH, VICTOR P.  
REGNIER, EDGAR A.  
REGNIER, NORMAN C.  
REGNIER, WILFRED L.  
REPINEC, I.  
REPOSSI, LENO  
RICCI, EMMA L.  
RICCI, IDA A.  
RICHARDS, HARRY R.  
RICHARDS, WILLIAM F.  
RICHARDSON, ARTHUR, JR.  
RICHMAN, IRVING  
RICHMOND, WILLIAM E., JR.  
RIEF, CLAIR  
RISING, ALVIN L.  
RIVERS, EARL M.  
RIVERS, LAWRENCE T.  
RIVERS, ROBERT R.  
RIVERS, ROLAND E.  
ROBERSON, GWENDOLYN L.  
ROBERT, ESTHER M.  
\* ROBERTS, HOWARD E.  
ROBERTS, ROLAND J.  
ROBERTS, WARREN H.  
ROBERTS, WOODROW W.  
ROGERSON, ROBERT B.  
RONCHI, PETER  
ROSATI, JOHN F.  
ROSE, ELIZABETH C.  
ROSE, RALPH H.  
ROSENBLOOM, JOSEPH D.  
ROSSI, CHARLES A.  
ROSSI, LOUIS C., JR.  
ROSSI, MARIO D.  
ROSSO, FRANCIS J.  
ROSSO, LOUIS F.  
ROUTSON, NORMAN  
\* ROUTSON, ROBERT  
ROVELLI, HERMAN M.  
ROVELLI, UGO E.  
RULE, EARL R.  
RUEL, HARRY  
RUELLE, ROLAND J.  
RUSHBY, ROLAND W.  
RUSHBY, RONALD W.  
RUSSELL, CHESTER W., JR.  
RYAN, RAYMOND F.  
RYAN, JOHN F.  
(\* Died while in service.)



*A Time for Family, Friends...  
and Neighbors*

The holidays are the perfect time to say "thank you" to you, our friends and neighbors in Agawam and Feeding Hills. We at the Canary Blomstrom Insurance Agency extend our warmest wishes for a joyous holiday season and a prosperous Year 2000!



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BLOMSTROM**  
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"A Neighbor You Can Turn To."

**789-3995**

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**AUXILIARY POLICE - from Page 1...**

try to buy two a year), but other costs are not covered through this means. The event entails parking cars at the Town Hall during the Eastern States Exposition. It is very reasonably priced and within easy walking distance of "The Big E."

"We have donated to the DARE Program and to the Police Explorers Association. This is all community service that we enjoy," Scoville says. "Mayor (Christopher) Johnson and Chief Campbell have been extremely supportive. Our liaison officer is Lieutenant Gary Nardi, and Chief Campbell works closely with us, too. They help us screen people for hiring, doing background checks, interviewing, and so forth."

**"... Excellent Training ..."**

"Technically, Auxiliary Police are hired by the City of Agawam and sworn in by Town Clerk Richard Theroux after their training is complete. This is excellent training. Many people go into regular police work or go to work for the Connecticut State Police or for other towns in the area due to the training they receive through this organization," Scoville observes.

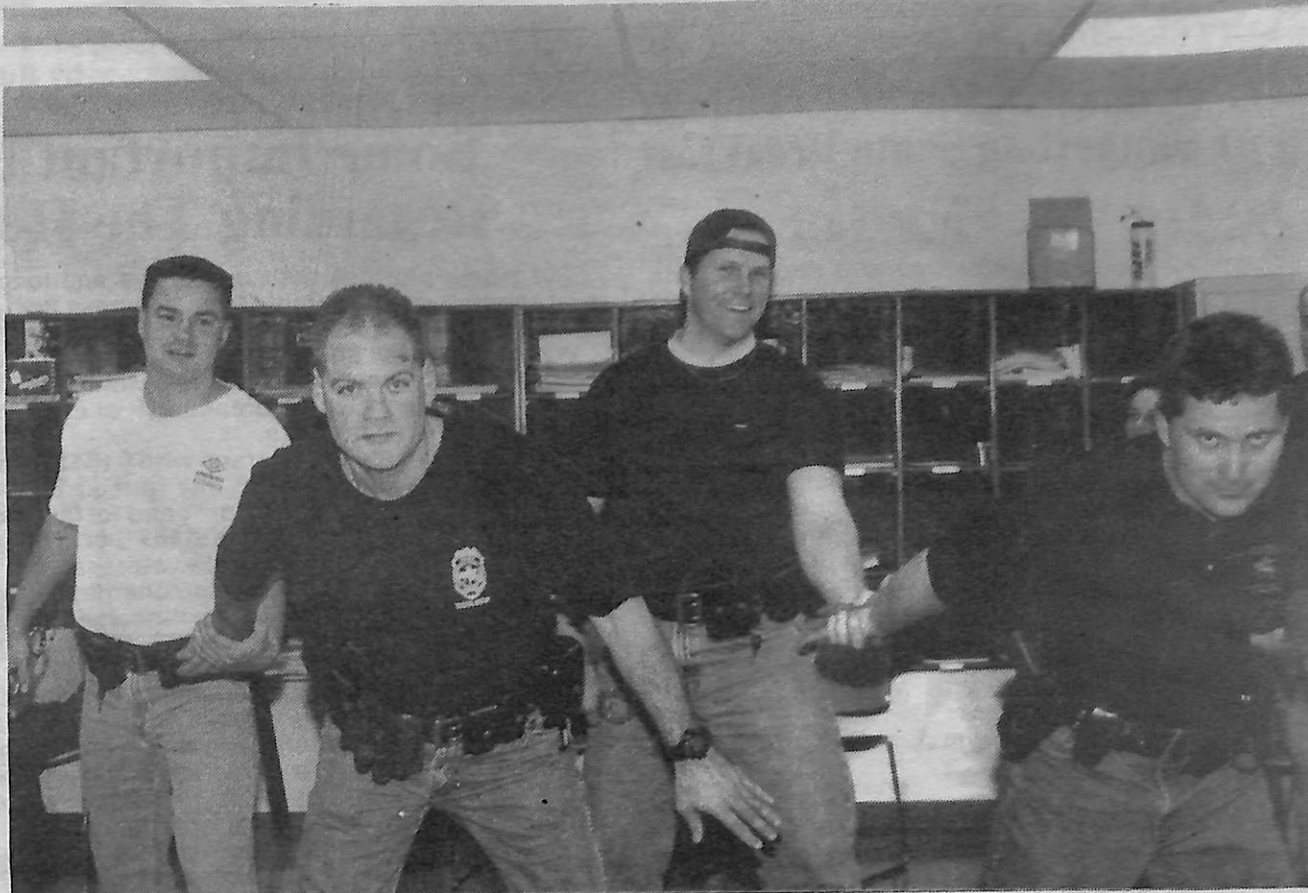
Once a month there is a training night, which might entail a class or possibly building searches. "In one case, we used an old building. We were searching for intruders. The trainees were videotaped and later critiqued," Scoville described. The classes might include regular police officers helping with training, such as doing accident investigations, fingerprinting, or booking procedures.

Agawam's Auxiliary Police Officers include Scoville, Lt. Mark Poirier, Lt. William Cushin, Sgt. Fred Harpin, Sgt. Dan Illicky, Sgt. Pat McCarthy, Sgt. Jim Mokrzyck, and Sgt. Paul Schmaelzle. Each has squads of patrol officers under their supervision.

The Western Massachusetts Auxiliary Police Association meets in Holyoke every three months, where the local Auxiliary forces can benefit from group events. An FBI agent spoke at one meeting, and another time they were given a tour of the Ludlow jail. There was an opportunity to see the Westover Air Force Base Police and Security Program, and another meeting presented Sheriff Michael Ashe as the guest speaker.

There is a great deal of community dedication that goes into Agawam's Auxiliary Police. There are opportunities for young people to be trained and receive experience in a possible future field. And glimpses of other areas of community involvement, crime prevention, disaster relief, and law enforcement are seen. It's a great way to learn about the many aspects of police work.

Lieutenant Gary Nardi, their liaison with the Agawam Police Department, commented, "Jerry and the staff of supervisors have made the Agawam Auxiliary Police second to none throughout Western Massachusetts. They have been used as a model for other Police Departments in many kinds of situations."



**AT THE AGAWAM AUXILIARY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S monthly training session: in top photo — Andy Canata, Matthew Hubbard, Kevin Connor, and Richard Riccio; in photo below — Nicole Charette and Paula Burke. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.**



**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN OF AGAWAM**

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main St., in the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts, at 7:00 o'clock p.m., on Monday, December 20, 1999 upon petition of New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. dated November 16, 1999 for permission to place solely owned pole and place PVC conduit in the ways or parts of ways designated in said petition, along which designated route of line you are an owner of real estate as determined by the last preceding assessment for taxation.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 1999.

Information regarding this petition may be obtained from the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. in Springfield between 8-10 a.m., tel. no. 787-0391.

PETITION NO. 92-0155

STREET: Mill St.; Tennis Road

Ursula Retzler

Clerk of the Council

Published: December 16, 1999

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN OF AGAWAM  
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1999 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the petition of BENJAMIN DELISO, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Sections 180-69 & 180-71 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a single family dwelling found to lie within the floodplain at the premises identified as: 955 RIVER ROAD.

Doreen Prouty

Acting Chairperson

Published: December 16, 1999

**TOWN OF AGAWAM  
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1999 at 6:45 P.M., for all parties interested in the petition of BENJAMIN DELISO, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Sections 180-69 & 180-71 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a single family dwelling found to lie within the floodplain at the premises identified as: 965 RIVER ROAD.

Doreen Prouty

Acting Chairperson

Published: December 16, 1999

# HOMETOWN

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# Agawam Firemen Attend Memorial In Worcester

by Kathy Shepard  
Feature Editor

The over 400 members of Worcester's Fire Department wanted to throw their efforts into finding their six comrades, who perished on December 3rd in a blaze that consumed a cold-storage facility. Two firefighters were missing and four of their colleagues attempted a rescue, resulting in a tragic event that resulted in the loss of all six. At that point, the rest of the state and the rest of the world became involved in the tragedy.

The entire Worcester Fire Department wanted to be at the scene for emotional support and to help with the recovery of the doomed heroes. Thus, help was forthcoming from the rest of the firefighting community, providing around-the-clock coverage of fire stations in Worcester. From the start, cities and towns in Massachusetts sent firefighters to man the stations.

A four-man engine company from Agawam, led by Lt. Alan Boissonneault, went to help at the tragic scene the evening of December 8th and remained through December 9th, searching through the rubble for several firefighters whose remains had not, at that point, been found.

Boissonneault told us that his team went in a convoy with nine engines and three ladder trucks from the Springfield area on December 8th. The team, including Frank Cavallo, Dave Walles, Jim Deming, and himself, arrived on December 8th at 6:00 p.m. and went first to the Worcester fire station headquarters.

At 11:00 p.m., they were called to the scene of the fire, where more manpower was needed to comb through ashes or pump water on the area. The following day, the same team remained in Worcester until approximately 2:30 p.m. (so that firefighters from Worcester could attend the memorial service).

On December 10th, the Agawam Fire Department responded to a call from Worcester by sen-



**AT COLONIAL-FORASTIERE FUNERAL HOME on Main Street, Agawam, members of the Agawam Fire Department view the memorial for the Worcester firefighters who perished earlier this month. From left to right: Randy Cushing, Dan Terlik, Ken Blair, Tony Albano, Jim Sibia, and Nick Demko. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.**

ding Robert LaFrance, Richard Weld, and Randy Cushing to the scene to continue the search for the victims. They worked from midnight to 8:00 a.m. at the scene.

Boissonneault summed up his own feelings, and those of many others, with these words: "It was incredible to see the outpouring of help from other firefighters for the Worcester Fire Dept. We all try to help each other; Springfield helps us when we need it, and West Springfield and Agawam go back and forth and help each other. What has been happening in Worcester is on a massive scale."

#### 30,000 Firefighters Pay Respects

At the massive memorial ceremony at the Worcester Centrum on Thursday, December 9th that included President Bill Clinton, close to 30

members of Agawam's Fire Department took part in the processional and memorial ceremony. They were part of a contingent of an estimated 30,000 uniformed firefighters who paid their respects that day.

The Centrum was filled to capacity and thousands of people watched on television made available outside the building.

Under a statewide mobilization plan, Massachusetts is divided into about 12 districts, which assemble task forces if another community needs assistance. Agawam is Pumper District 11 Task Force. In addition, Agawam has eight members of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (of six teams statewide).

**SEE FIREFIGHTERS - Page 8...**

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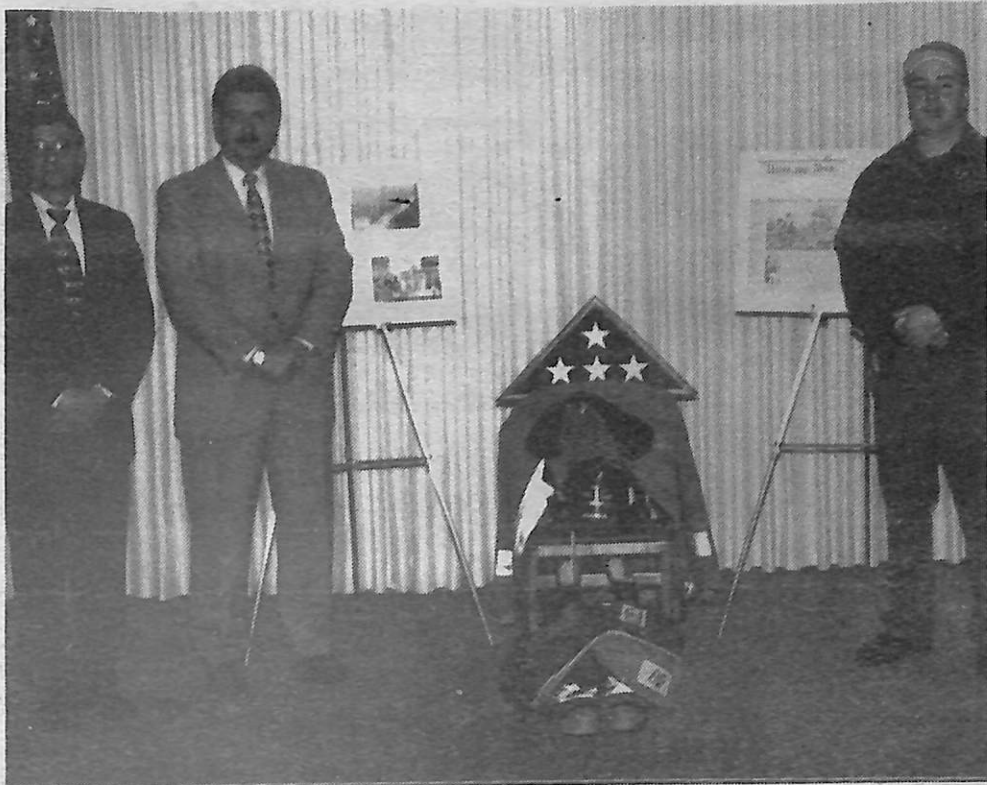
Store Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am till 5 pm and Saturday 9 am till 3 pm.

Factory Tours Saturday, December 18th, 10 am till 1 pm.

Schools and other organizations are welcome. Please call for an appointment.

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Rt. 57 to Garden Street exit; Take GARDEN ST.  
till it ends and TURN right onto Silver St.





IN LEFT PHOTO: Ron Lalancette, Peter Forastiere, and Agawam firefighter Jim Sibilia in front of the memorial dedicated to the Worcester firemen at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home on Main Street, Agawam. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Agawam firefighter Ken Blair. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

**FIREFIGHTERS - from Page 7...**

Technicians from the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team were called to the scene in Worcester to provide support and logistics for the operation. Three members of Agawam's Fire Department worked various shifts in that effort. The three are Lieutenant James Brown, Lieutenant Nick Demko, and firefighter Donald Wells.

Firefighters from all around the Springfield area met at Eastern States Exposition grounds on the

morning of the memorial service. From there, Pioneer Valley Transit Authority donated their transportation services to the firemen, driving them to the Amtrak terminal in downtown Springfield. Round-trip train service by Amtrak was also donated.

**Sad & Emotionally Draining Day**

Agawam Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Martin attempted to put his feelings into words: "It was a sad and emotionally draining day, yet the sight of over 30,000 uniformed firefighters was a reminder of the pride and comradeship we feel as members of our fire departments."

"In months and years to come, the events that led up to this tragedy will be studied and analyz-

ed, hopefully helping to prevent devastating events of this nature from ever happening again.

"It was overwhelming to witness the help from businesses and area merchants, who donated food, services, and all manner of help. The Red Cross, PVTA, Amtrak, and hundreds of other enterprises in the Worcester area helped in every way possible. They were true neighbors."

On Friday, December 10th, Forastiere Family Funeral Homes invited the public to visit any of their six local establishments to sign a book of support and to make donations for the families of the Worcester heroes. Colonial-Forastiere on Main Street in Agawam was among them.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN OF AGAWAM  
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD**

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 16, 1999 at 7:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Fether, Inc. for a Definitive Subdivision Plan of Willow Glenn Estates II, a proposed forty-eight (48) lot subdivision to be located at the end of Lancaster Drive to Line Street.

Per order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman  
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

Published: December 16, 1999

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Mon.—Wed. (12/20 - 12/22), 9-6  
Thurs. (12/23), 9-7  
Fri. (Christmas Eve), 9-4



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<b>Bass</b> (England) 12-Pk. Btls. <b>\$11.99</b> (P.D.)	<b>New Castel</b> (England) 12-Pk. Btls. <b>\$11.99</b> (P.D.)	<b>Molsen</b> (Canadian) 12-Pk. Btls. <b>\$7.99</b> (P.D.)	<b>Corona &amp; Corona Light</b> (Mexico) 12-Pk. Btls. <b>\$9.99</b> (P.D.)	<b>Grolsh</b> (Holland) 12-Pk. Btls. <b>\$9.99</b> (P.D.)

## DECEMBER LIQUOR SPECIALS

<b>Crown Royal</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$16.99</b>	<b>Romano Sambuca</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$14.99</b>	<b>Tia Maria</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$15.99</b>	<b>Bailey's</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$15.99</b>	<b>Grand Marnier</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$25.99</b>	<b>Drambuie</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$18.99</b>
<b>Absolut Vodka</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$23.99</b>	<b>Crown Royal</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$33.99</b>	<b>Canadian Mist</b> (1.75 Ltr.) Less \$3.00 Rebate <b>\$9.99</b>	<b>Canadian Club</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$16.99</b>	<b>Chivas Regal Scotch</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$22.99</b>	<b>Glenlivet Single Malt</b> (750 ml.) <b>\$23.99</b>

## DECEMBER WINE SPECIALS

### Vendange

Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot (1.5 Ltr.) ..... **\$6.99**  
White Zinfandel (Ltr.) ..... **\$4.99**

### Dunnewood Vineyards (1.5 Ltr.)

Cabernet, Chardonnay ..... **\$10.99**

### Gallo Wine Cellars (1.5 Ltr.)

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Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot ..... **\$10.99**  
White Zinfandel, Mt. Red Burgundy, White Grenache,  
Mt. Chablis, Mt. Rhine, Golden Chablis, Blush,  
Alfresco Red ..... **\$7.99**

### Martini & Rossi Asti Spumante

(750 ml.) ..... **\$8.49**

### Sutter Home White Zinfandel

(750 ml.) ..... **\$3.99**

### Andre Champagne (750 ml.)

Extra Dry, Brut, Cold Duck, And Pink ..... **3/\$9.99**

### Ballatore Spumante

(750 ml.) ..... **2/\$9.99**

### “Christmas Wine Tasting”

Sunday, December 19th  
12:00 Noon To 6:00 P.M.  
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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### Evelyn I. Dialessi

Evelyn I. (Graham) Dialessi, 85, of Rugby Road, Longmeadow, and formerly of Springfield, died recently at home.

Born in Ludlow, she attended Commerce High School and was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

Her husband, Frank G. Dialessi, died in 1972. She leaves three sons, John "Richard" and Robert F., both of Longmeadow, and Robert G. of Agawam; and two granddaughters.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and St. Anthony of Padua Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Baystate Medical Center Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit, 759 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01107.

### Edith A. Peritz

Edith Anne (Skoblicki) Peritz, 78, of 62 Brookline Avenue, Feeding Hills, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She worked at Titeflex Corp. of East Springfield for 34 years and retired in 1984.

Born and schooled in Waterbury, CT, she was a Springfield resident before moving to Feeding Hills in 1951.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

Her husband, Stanley W. Peritz, died in 1958, and her companion of 38 years, Antoine J. Savage, in 1996.

She leaves two sons, Robert L. of West Springfield and Stanley W. II of Agawam; a sister, Elizabeth Navage of Southbury, CT; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at St. Pierre Springfield Funeral Chapels and Our Lady of Sacred Heart Church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, all in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089, or Hospice Life Care, P.O. Box 10428, Holyoke, MA 01041-2028.

### Dorothy A. Karakla

Dorothy A. (Pelczar) Karakla, 69, of 703 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at home.

She was a bookkeeper for J.T. Electric in Chicopee and retired in 1985.

Born in Chicopee, she moved here in 1951.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church, a member of its prayer line, and former Rosary Altar Society.

She leaves her husband, Francis T. "Frank" Karakla; two sons, Anthony F. Karakla of Penacook, New Hampshire, and Dr. Daniel W. Karakla of Portsmouth, Virginia; a daughter, Evelyn M. Legree of Springfield; a brother, Edward Pelczar of Manchester, New Hampshire; a sister, Anna Lavalley of Chicopee; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Permanent Firefighter Ambulance Fund, Box 911, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

### Mildred L. Barrett

Mildred L. (Pare) Barrett, 92, formerly of Parker Street, Agawam, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was an executive secretary at the former National Bronze and Aluminum for 36 years, and then worked at Whirlpool Corp. for five years, retiring in 1970.

Born and educated in West Springfield, she lived in Longmeadow and moved to Agawam in 1970.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Her husband, Neil L. Barrett, died in 1987.

She leaves two nephews, Daniel Wright, Jr. of Sharon, CT, and George Pare, Jr. of Kingston, New York; and a niece, Jean Mentor of Longmeadow.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church building fund, 823 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### Flory Grover

Flory (Costa) Grover, 87, of 807 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, died recently.

She taught in Agawam schools for a short time and was a long-time teacher of English and French at Delmar Junior High School in Delmar, New York.

Born in Agawam, she was a graduate of Agawam High School, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and received her master's degree in education from Columbia University in New York City.

She leaves her husband of 59 years, George H. Grover.

The funeral was burial were private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

\* \* \*

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\* \* \*

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### Melconian Fights Discrimination...

## Senate Passes Gender Neutral Insurance

Senate Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is proud to announce that the Senate has passed legislation banning discrimination on the basis of gender in the sale of all insurance policies. Currently, women receive fewer benefits than men in health, disability, life, and annuity insurance in proportion to the amount that they pay in premiums.

"This systematic, institutionalized discrimination is a travesty that has no place in modern society," said Melconian. "It is not right to discriminate against women, any more than it would be to discriminate against African-Americans or members of different religious faiths."

The Senate legislation creates a comprehensive ban on discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, pregnancy, or national origin and would supplement the haphazard regulations that currently guard against insurance discrimination.

Discrimination on the basis of gender is the most widely practiced form of insurance discrimination. The practice was outlawed in Massachusetts for more than two years from 1989 until 1991 under regulations promulgated by the Division of Insurance. The regulations were overturned in 1991 by the Supreme Judicial Court in the *Tellas* case as outside the scope of authority of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Discrimination exists for several different types of insurance. In disability insurance, women often pay more than men but receive less in benefits and do not receive coverage for pregnancy-related disabilities. Health insurance premiums are the same for men and women, but coverage for female-specific conditions are often omitted, costing women 68 percent more than men in out-of-pocket benefits.

In life insurance, women pay lower premiums but gain disproportionately less in cash values, dividends, and annuity options. Last year, Massachusetts women were paid \$4 million less in annuities than their male counterparts.

"*Tellas* showed us that gender neutral insurance can work in Massachusetts," said Melconian. "Isn't it time that the women of Massachusetts had justice and equality?"

The bill currently awaits action in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

## Marie Vecchiarelli



*Sadly Missed By Your Family*

September 9, 1931 — December 15, 1998

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## Rosemary Sandlin Is V.P. Of State School Comm. Assoc.

Rosemary Sandlin, a member of the Agawam School Committee, will become the new vice-president of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC). She was elected to the position at the Association's annual meeting last month in Hyannis.

Sandlin currently serves on MASC's Board of Directors as secretary-treasurer.

A 15-year member of the Agawam School Committee (1980-91, 1996-present), Sandlin has served as the committee's secretary, vice-chair, and chair, as well as on many of its subcommittees.

Elected last year to the MASC Executive Committee (serving as secretary-treasurer), Sandlin has also served on the Board of Directors as chair of Division V. She has also been a member of MASC's Nominating Committee and represented the Association on the MIAA's Game Officials Committee.

A strong advocate for children and families in her community, Sandlin has been a member of the Agawam Housing Authority since 1978 and is a volunteer with a number of other community organizations. She is currently a member of the Democratic State Committee.

A graduate of the Agawam Public Schools and currently enrolled in the University Without Walls degree program at the University of Massachusetts—Amherst, Sandlin has for the past several years been chief of staff to Massachusetts Senate Majority Leader Linda Melconian.

MASC is a non-profit organization that



ROSEMARY SANDLIN

represents more than 2,100 Massachusetts School Committee members in over 330 local and regional school districts throughout the commonwealth, providing its members a wide range of training programs, policy development, and administrator search services, as well as legal and advocacy support.

## State Representative Daniel Keenan Once Again Compiles A 100 Percent Voting Record

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that he has once again compiled a 100 percent voting record in the Massachusetts House of Representatives for the current legislative session.

"Input from my constituents helps me decide how to vote and I express the voice of my constituency through voting," Keenan stated, "Representing their views and positions is my

responsibility."

The majority of the votes cast are to determine how to spend taxpayers' dollars. Controversial votes, however, garner the most attention, according to Keenan.

Anyone interested in contacting Rep. Keenan can reach him at his district office at (413) 786-4545, or via e-mail at [dkeenana@exit3.com](mailto:dkeenana@exit3.com).

## Agawam Public Library Expansion Moves Forward

*Agawam Receives Grant Award From State  
And Hires Architect To Begin Project*

The Town of Agawam has received a provisional grant award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in the amount of \$1,870,407 for building a new addition to the library.

The award is the culmination of several years of hard work by town officials, the library staff, and the Agawam Center Library Association in seeking this competitive state grant. The plans for library expansion will nearly triple the size of the existing facility and provide much-needed space for new materials, service, and programs.

In order to keep the project moving forward, the Town this week signed a contract for architectural services with the firm of Galliher, Baier and Best of Simsbury, Connecticut. The contract calls for Galliher, Baier and Best to provide all architectural services for the projects.

Galliher, Baier and Best previously prepared the schematic design plans for the library addition, which were approved as part of the grant submission. They are one of the leading firms in New England in the field of library design.

The proposed timetable for the project as required by the grant are design and local funding approval no later than June 30, 2000, with construction to begin no later than March 30, 2001.

Mayor Christopher Johnson said, "I would expect the final design documents to be completed by mid-summer of 2000, with the project going out to bid in the early fall of next year. That would mean the new library addition would be open in the fall of 2001."

He added, "I have been working with Library Director Donna Campbell and her staff on this important project for many years, and I am excited that it is ready to move forward. The new library will be beautiful and it will be a great asset for our community."

*Best local news...*

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## Regular Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 20th, At 7:30 P.M.  
Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street

1. Citizen's Speak Time.
2. Roll Call.
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of December 6, 1999.
5. Declaration from Council President.
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances.

### (a) Petitions.

1. TR-98-28- A Resolution Adopting the New Agawam Council Rules and Regulations as amended by the 1999 Agawam City Council Rules and Regulations Committee (Coun. Young on behalf of Rules and Reg. Comm.)(Tabled on 9/7/99 - Left on table 12/6/99).

2. TR-99-35- A Resolution Encouraging our Federal and State Legislators to Increase Medicare and Medicaid Payments for Prescription Drugs to our Senior Citizens (Coun. Bitzas).

3. TR-99-36 - A Resolution Honoring the 1999/2000 Agawam High School Cheerleaders (Coun. Thompson).

4. TR-99-37- Resolution Directing Berkshire Power to immediately notify the Mayor, City Council, and appropriate city departments of any spills, leakages, explosions, or injuries resulting from all operations of the plant and/or the storage or use of all hazardous, flammable or any other chemical materials and their containers, no matter how minor (Coun. Caba, Letellier, Rheault, Perry, Negrucci).

### 7. Report of Council Committees.

None.

### 8. Elections.

#### (a)

1. TR-99-5- Election of a regular member to the Board of Appeals to a term expiring January 1, 2003.

2. TR-99-6- Election of a regular member to the Board of Appeals to a term expiring January 1, 2003.

3. TR-99-7- Election of an alternate member to the Board of Appeals to a term expiring January 1, 2003.

### 9. Public Hearings.

None.

### 10. Old Business.

#### (a)

1. TOR-99-7- An Ordinance to Amend Section 3-8.1 of the Code of the Town of Agawam regarding the Agawam Municipal Golf Course (Mayor)(2nd Reading).

2. TOR-99-8- Ordinance to add Sec. 180-112 Special Permit for Parking or Loading Requirement Reduction (Pres. Rheault).

3. TOR-99-9- An Ordinance to Amend Par. 49-7(c)(1) and Par. 49-7(d)(3) of Ch. 49 Entitled "Personnel" of the Code of the Town of Agawam to Update the Hourly Wages for Certain Unclassified Positions (Mayor)(1st Reading).

4. TO-99-44- Voucher List (\$128.97).

5. TO-99-45- Transfer - \$10,000.00 from Reserve Fund (166605-57300) to Line Items - Professional Services (16602-52190)(Mayor).

## FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano  
**You Can Rest Assured When You Use Smoke Detectors...**

Each year, over 5,600 people die in their homes. The killer ... SMOKE. Smoke that is generated from a fire. You increase your chances of surviving a home fire by 50 percent with properly installed and maintained smoke detectors.

Most fatal home fires occur between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., when most of us are sleeping. During sleep, we do not have the ability to smell. That's why a working smoke detector is so vital to your survival of a home fire. It senses the smoke during the early stages of fire and sounds its warning while escape is still possible.

Your home should have at least one detector on each level, especially outside the sleeping areas. If you sleep with your bedroom door closed, it is suggested that you also have a smoke detector in the bedroom.

The smoke detectors should be tested at least once a month by pressing the test button or snuffing a candle and letting smoke drift into the detector. Replacement of the battery should be annually. A good time is in the fall as we go into the high fire season.

If your home does not have smoke detectors, purchase them today. If you don't remember the last time you tested or changed the battery in your detector, do it now ... so you can REST ASSURED.

For more information on the selection, installation, and maintenance of smoke detectors, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

### TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1999 at 7:00 P.M., for all parties interested in the petition of ROBERT E. FONTANILLES, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-23, Paragraph L. of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the parking of two (2) - three (3) axle tractors (freightliners/big-rigs) at the premises identified as: 646 COOPER STREET.

Doreen Prouty  
Acting Chairperson

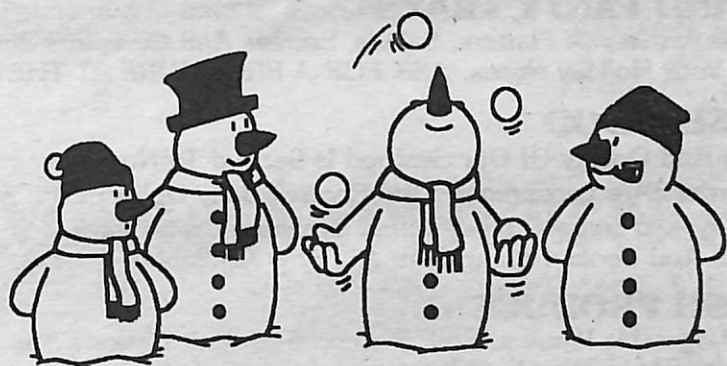
Published: December 16, 1999

\* \* \*

**EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

\* \* \*

All the hometown news with us...



Don't juggle everything until the last minute..

Order now for the Holidays ! !

*Ambrogio's Bakery*

1325 Springfield St. Feeding Hills

Tue-Fri--7-6, Sat--7-3, Sun 7-1

**821-9571**

Wishing you a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

## Agawam Police Explorers To Take Pictures With Santa

The Agawam Police Explorers will be taking pictures with Santa on Saturday and Sunday, December 18th and 19th. The cost will be \$3 per picture, and the proceeds will help the Police Explorers.

This event will be held at Boglisch and Sons Farm on Southwest Street (a half mile from Route 57) in Agawam. It will be run from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on both days.

If you have any questions regarding this fundraiser, call Vanessa at 237-6280.

## Keenan Slates Office Hours In Agawam On Dec. 22nd

State Representative Daniel Keenan will hold office hours on Wednesday, December 22nd between 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam.

Members of the public are welcome to attend to convey their comments and concerns on issues facing the district and the state. Rep. Keenan welcomes the opportunity to meet and hear from his constituents.

Representative Keenan may also be reached at his district office at 342 Springfield Street in Agawam or at the State House in Boston. His district phone number is 786-4545.

\* \* \*

*Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street*

\* \* \*



## Cat's Meow Season's Greetings!

### Specializing In:

- Arts And Crafts
- Specialty Items
- Handpainted Sweatshirts
- Handpainted Christmas Ornaments
- Wreaths
- Cemetery Boxes
- Handmade Wooden Crafts

833 Springfield Street  
Feeding Hills

Open Wednesday Through Sunday  
10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**786-8708**





## Families

A Member Of The Jr. Women's Club...

### Rosalie A. Dialessi At Orientation Of National Org. Leaders

Rosalie A. Dialessi, Director Elect of the GFWC of Massachusetts Junior Membership and member of the Agawam Junior Women's Club, recently returned from a four-day Orientation Meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Alexandria, Virginia.

Dialessi has been named Junior Director to the GFWC Board for the 2000-2002 administration.

GFWC President-elect Shelby Hamlett told the 175 clubwomen present that the Community Involvement Program, which is the 1998-2000 President's Special Project, will be the special project for the coming administration as well.

"Community improvement is what the Federation has been about since its earliest days and is our area of greatest expertise," she said. "No-matter which of our six departments GFWC clubs choose to emphasize, their programs — from those designed to improve parenting skills to others aimed at conserving natural resources — all address the needs of communities," she added.

Mrs. Hamlett said that during 2000-2002, there also would be special emphasis on community programs that ensure increased opportunity for people with disabilities. In addition, she described her administration's plans to work with the Kettering Foundation and the National Issues Forum.



AT THE ORIENTATION MEETING In Alexandria, Virginia: Rosalie Dialessi, Shelby Hamlett (GFWC President-elect), and Maxine Scarboro (GFWC International President).

"We will be looking at Women's Health Issues and working to heighten awareness in our communities of the most prevalent medical problems affecting women today and the importance of maintaining a balanced lifestyle," she said.

As part of the orientation, Dialessi attended plenary sessions designed to acquaint her with the Federation's departments, materials, and

reporting process for the new administration that will commence in late June.

Approximately one-million women are members of the Federation in the United States and in 20 other countries, making it one of the world's largest women's volunteer service organizations. Founded in 1890, it currently has member clubs in 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, eight regions, and 421 districts.

## Jr. Women Ask Kids To Send Letters To Santa

Once again, the Agawam Junior Women's Club is asking all good girls and boys to send their letters to Santa Claus at the North Pole. Make sure you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope along with your letter so that Santa can reply.

Santa's elves enjoy delivering your letters to Santa and Mrs. Claus, as it brings them good cheer during this joyous holiday season. To get your letter to the North Pole in time, address your envelope to Santa, c/o 24 Tanglewood Lane,

Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1527.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

*Alexander's*  
60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

Your Hosts,  
Marlene and Charles Grasso

Gift Certificates  
Available

## Join Us On New Year's Eve...

*All dinners will include Alexander's house appetizers, house salad, potato, rolls & butter, a glass of complimentary champagne, and Alexander's special New Year's dessert.*

*Everyone is invited into the banquet room for Alexander's very own Millennium Celebration featuring the live sounds of "Stormin Norm Richards."*

Happy New Year and please drive safely ... The Grasso Family

Call In Your Reservations Now — 786-1127







**HERITAGE HALL EAST RESIDENTS** Stella Krupa, Sophie Chmura, and Bill Chmura enjoy the company of "Cheerios" the dog, as does Alexis Torres from the Kids' Place Nursery School in Feeding Hills. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



**AN INTERGENERATIONAL FRIENDSHIP:** Helen Koziol, a resident of Heritage Hall East, holds hands with Presley Taylor of the Kids' Place. Youngsters from the Kids' Place in Feeding Hills visit with the seniors on a monthly basis. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

## Kids' Place Visits Heritage Hall East And "Cheerios"

For many of the residents of Heritage Hall East, some of the best parts of life are not gone, but are existing and even thriving. It was evident on a particular weekday morning when the residents (many of whom just attended a "coffee and trivia" hour) were now enthralled in a Wednesday morning entertainment program.

However, it wasn't the usual program expected to be found in a long-term care facility. There was an entertainer (Kevin Bell) who was singing, and there were about 40 residents in attendance.

But there was much more. In addition to the residents and entertainer, there were about 20 children from the Kids' Place Nursery School on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills.

A special program and relationship has been developing between Heritage Hall East and the Kids' Place. Some of the students and teachers visit Heritage Hall East every month to attend programs, but more importantly develop friendships with the residents.

As the children arrive and take off their coats, the residents begin to smile broadly. Some of the children will go to sit on a lap of a special friend from Heritage Hall; others will sit in groups near the feet of other residents.

A new addition to the scene has been the arrival of Heritage Hall's four month-old, part Brittany/Sheltie puppy, named "Cheerios." She was obtained through the rescue organization called F.A.C.E.S.

Cheerios is a friendly dog who greets everyone as a long-lost friend. For such a young dog, she seems to have not only unlimited patience, but also unlimited amounts of love. On this particular morning, her head could be seen on the top of a mound of children, and her tail wagging underneath the group.

As the morning continued, the children danced to the music and held hands with the residents as they swung their arms to a special beat.

\* \* \*

**EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

\* \* \*

## Rejean J. Remillard Insurance Agency

Auto ♦ Home ♦ Life ♦ Workers Comp ♦ Liability ♦ IRA's

Conveniently Located in Feeding Hills Center

"Where Good Drivers Receive Valuable Discounts Without Group Hassles"

Your Local Family Owned And Operated Agency Since 1970



23 Southwick Street  
Feeding Hills, MA



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Saturday 9:00am to Noon

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360 N. Westfield Street  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030  
(in the Galleria Shops)  
(413) 789-6369

Let us take the Stress out of Holiday  
Gift Shopping with **10% OFF**  
Gift Certificates and Gifts Baskets.  
(Now Thru Dec. 21, 1999).

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has a new look for the  
millennium! Do you?

Let us pamper you from  
head to toe in a relaxing  
and friendly atmosphere.

**10% Off** your first visit  
(for new clients) or a new service.  
(Not to be combined with any other offer.)





**"Beauty Corner"**  
by Mary Ann Zicoella

**Salon Tres Chic**  
At Twin Silos  
1407 Suffield Street  
Agawam, MA 01001  
(413) 786-8274

**Got A Hair, Nail, Or Beauty Problem? Send Us A Note And We Will Answer It In Our Column...**

**How can I get a fabulous winter look?**

With all the holiday parties and family affairs coming up, you should look special! Just remember — less is best! Keep it simple and don't add unnecessary things like overpowering jewelry or earrings. Large or dark-rimmed glasses will hide your cheekbones and harden your face.

Eyeshadow should complement your eyes, skin tone, and eye color. You don't have to match your eyeshadow or lip color to your outfit, so go ahead and play with those new winter shades (just make sure the total look blends).

False eyelashes are back, adding a soft flow to the total look. These can be fun, but make sure the length is flattering and the look is wide-eyed, not sunken-in. Choose lashes that are not too closely woven together.

To add drama, a shimmer or glow powder or cream can be added to areas like cheekbones, under-brow bone, neck, and shoulders. Finish your lips with a nice shine. If you don't have lipgloss, a little Vaseline will work nicely.

**Tip:** Keep these products away from problem areas like scars, blemishes, or deep pore areas. This will only draw attention to these areas. Dry-skinned women should avoid powder-based or shine products, as they will only draw attention to dryness. Oily-skinned women should avoid cream-based products, as these will only reflect too much light.

Hair can be enhanced by maybe adding one to three tones of highlight color to your natural hair color. Hair ornaments, ribbons, glitter, or a soft up-sweep will make your event extra special.

**TOASTMASTERS Meet In Agawam**

Agawam/West Side TOASTMASTERS, a club which promotes better communication and speaking skills, meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the meeting room of Country Estates, 1200 Suffield Street, Agawam.

The public is invited to attend for free. For more information, call Jim, 789-2925, or Richard, 786-0887.



**DARKER IMAGE**  
*Tanning Salon*

Hours:  
M-F 9 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
Sat. 9-4  
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**Hot New Bulbs**  
**Open 7 Days A Week**  
(With 10 Tanning Units)

- Specials Monthly
- Ultra Bronz
- Sun Capsule VHR
- Wolf Beds

303 Walnut Street  
Agawam  
789-0489

Don't forget your finger and toenails. The new open-toe shoes will be revealing your feet, so put your best foot forward! This time of year can be so exhausting, so treat yourself to a pedicure and a manicure.

Your fingernails should be the perfect extension of your hands. Nails should not be too long or square. If you nails are just not cutting it, try temporary tips for the occasion; these will last up to a week or more.

Acrylics are still very popular, but keep them natural-looking and not too thick. Have fun with color or choose a simple French look with some nail art for that special look.

Finally, choose clothes to complement your body shape and the occasion. Jewelry should also be used to accent, not to make a statement or overpower your look.

**Have a great holiday season** and look for our column next week. We will be sharing some great recipes for pampering yourself so you can look and feel great for that special event!

**Thought for a smile ...** A child's face on Christmas morning.

Holiday and Semi appointments still available ... remember, beauty is our business!

**Jr. Women's Club Schedules Holiday Mtg. For Dec. 21st**

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is holding its Holiday Meeting on December 21st at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Leonard House.

The December meeting is an enjoyable evening, with all club members bringing a gift and participating in a Yankee Swap.

The Club's activities enrich the quality of life in our community through a variety of educational, social, and cultural projects and programs. Come to have fun, meet new friends, and get involved. For more information, call Laura Paul at 786-5889. The Club meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Leonard House.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

# BLOCK JEWELERS

*The Right Gift  
At  
The Right Price!*



**Extended Holiday Hours:**  
Mon. Thru Fri.,  
9 A.M. - 5 P.M.  
Thurs. Until 8 P.M.  
Sat., 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.



**299 Walnut Street**

Agawam

**789-2940**



Free Layaway For Christmas



Open Monday Through Mon.-Fri. 9-5 Sat. 9-1



## Ag. Golden Agers (Ch. 1) Hold Christmas Party



THE AGAWAM GOLDEN AGE CLUB (CHAPTER 1) ended the 20th century with a Christmas party in Chez Josef's Tivoli Room on December 8th. Hors-d'oeuvres with egg nog or cocktails were served prior to dinner, and entertainment was provided by the multi-talented Richard Mitnick. IN LEFT PHOTO: Loretta Wright (tickets), Dolores Gatti (Chapter 1 treasurer), and Rose Paro (tickets). IN RIGHT PHOTO: Bob & Terry Clermont (table arrangements) and Ed & Nellie Organek (who chaired the event). Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

### "Pet Coloring Contest" At Dave's Soda & Pet City

Children ages three through eight can enter to win either a toddler or youth bicycle by drawing their favorite pet or animal in a holiday setting.

Coloring entries for the contest may be obtained at Dave's Soda & Pet City, 11 Ramah Circle, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.

Four winners, two youth and two toddler, will be chosen at random on December 22nd.

All entries will be displayed at Dave's and winners will be notified by telephone.

There is no purchase necessary to play. The contest is being sponsored by Dave's and Pro-Plan.

### Spfld. Italian Women's Club To Meet Dec. 20th

The December 20th meeting of the Springfield Italian Women's Club will be held at IL Giardino, 2481 Boston Rd., Wilbraham. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Membership is open to all women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian).

For more information, call 413-739-9040 or 543-4888.

For information on the Italian Women's Club, call 788-4690.



THE AGAWAM GOLDEN AGE CLUB (CHAPTER 1) OFFICERS at the Christmas party: Florida Tangocci, corresponding secretary; Louise Balboni, banquet secretary; Mary DelNegro, banquet chairman; Jan Riberdi, vice-president; Dolores Gatti, treasurer; and Jeannette Dore, president (who was the special greeter for the event). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Check our classifieds...



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Attorney at Law



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- Business Law
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Springfield Area And Connecticut

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Welcomes

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Call for your  
holiday appointment  
today!  
786-8274

Formerly from  
Great Cuts

Carol has over 14 years experience.



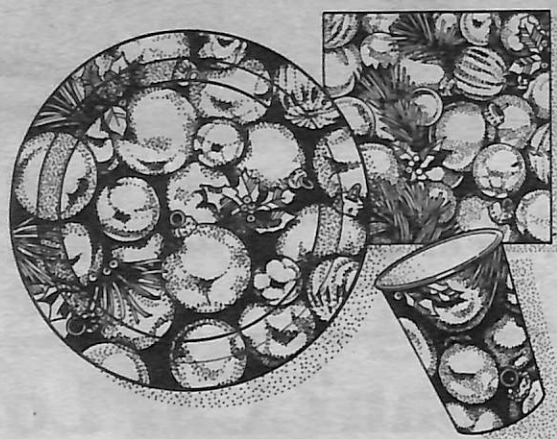
## At The Chapter 1 Christmas Party...



ENJOYING THE REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD COMPANY at the Agawam Golden Agers' (Chapter 1) Christmas party on December 8th at Chez Josef: Rita Montagna, Toni DeBella, Doris Berard, Alice Massia, Dorothy Wright, and Celia Balboni. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

## Make Christmas Count!

It's that wonderful, wintry time of year, and your Hallmark store is brimming with gifts, table settings and cards to make every moment spectacular. After all, it's the last Christmas of the millennium. Make it extraordinary!



Photographic Ornaments Partyware



Chris the Elf Bear



Value Boxed Cards



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**Surprise!**

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838 Suffield St., Agawam, MA  
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Open Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

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Tel. 786-2407

## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, December 20th:** Salisbury steak with gravy, cheese-baked potatoes, green beans, rye bread, banana.

**Tuesday, December 21st:** Sweet and sour ribs, rice Oriental and peas, whole wheat bread, pineapple.

**Wednesday, December 22nd:** Stuffed peppers, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rye bread, ice cream.

**Thursday, December 23rd:** 9:00 a.m. brunch (Center closed at 12:00 noon): Orange juice, omelette, breakfast sausage, potato puffs, fruit.

**Friday, December 24th:** Closed for Christmas.

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\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is stated in this ad. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY is accurate as of 8/19/99. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are F.D.I.C. insured to \$100,000.

MEMBER F.D.I.C.





# Charity Auction... Reunion For AHS's Class Of 1944...



**BIG SISTER VOLUNTEER** Michele Lanlancette of Agawam (left) attended the December 2nd Big Brothers Big Sisters charity auction at the Colosseum Banquet House in West Springfield, where she greeted guest auctioneer Rich Tetterer of TV-22 Sports. Over \$10,000 was raised to help recruit and train more Big Brothers and Sisters. For more information about the agency, call 781-4730 or visit its website at [www.bigbrothers-sisters.org](http://www.bigbrothers-sisters.org).

## Vacation Program At The Forest Park Zoo

Celebrate winter vacation week at The Zoo in Forest Park, December 27th-30th, 10:30-11:30 a.m. daily.

"Animals In Winter" will feature nature activities and educational programs, games and stories for all ages! A different family program each day.

Find out what animals *do* and see how they *change* when the weather gets cold and snowy! Learn how animals prepare for winter, identify animal tracks, meet our new "night creatures" (nocturnal animals), and learn about their behavior after sundown.

Ever wonder what animals eat at the Zoo? "What's For Lunch?" focuses on animal nutrition and diets at the zoo and how animals acquire food in the wild.

Information on predator/prey relationships, migration, hibernation, camouflage, and animal adaptations such as specialized teeth and skull formations will be demonstrated with hands-on specimens. Learning is fun at the Zoo!

Reservations are required. Daily program fee is \$2 per child, in addition to admission (\$1 per child for members). To register for one or all programs, please call the Education Office at (413) 733-2251, ext. 15.

Wear your woolies and bundle up! Tour the Zoo to see the "animals in winter"!



**THE REUNION COMMITTEE** for Agawam High School's class of 1944: Frank Caroleo, Joyce Colburn, Elizabeth Wescott, Alice Quick, Suzie (Sadak) Cotton, Marjorie (Raffinetti) Colli, Ralph Berber, and Alice (Steele) McMullin. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



**AT THE RECENTLY HELD REUNION** for Agawam High School's class of 1944: class president Frank Caroleo (middle) with the attendees who traveled the greatest distance — Betty (Smith) Bush (left) from Manchester, New Hampshire, and Margaret (Craigie) LaPierre (right) from St. Louis, Missouri. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

## Home Equity Loan? Car Loan?

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Sizes up to 5X+ 50% OFF Selected Items

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Dec 24th closing @ 4pm

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## Reliving High School Memories...



ON OCTOBER 30TH, Agawam High School's class of 1944 held a reunion dinner at the Monte Carlo restaurant; a day later, the attendees enjoyed a buffet at the Ivanhoe. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

### AFS's "Open House" Scheduled For Jan. 13th At Barnes & Noble Booksellers In Holyoke

High school students and their parents are invited to find out how they can live abroad on an AFS high school exchange program. AFS alumni will talk about experiencing life in another culture, and AFS volunteers will be on hand to answer questions.

Past participants are also invited to attend and reconnect with AFS at this "Open House" to be held Thursday, January 13th at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Holyoke. (Take Exit 15 off I-91 at Holyoke Crossing—just before the Holyoke Mall.)

AFS (American Field Service) Intercultural Programs is the most experienced high school ex-

change organization in the world, celebrating 50 years of international exchanges in 1997. Each year, more than 10,000 students participate in AFS exchange programs worldwide.

AFS exchange programs can give students an advantage in their college applications and an edge in today's global job market. AFS offers students a choice of 128 year, semester and summer, or interim pre-college programs in over 45 countries.

For further information, call AFS at 1-800-876-2377 or check out our website at [www.afs.org/usa](http://www.afs.org/usa).



JULIA ROSE EGGLESTON

### The Eggleston Family Announces Birth Of Daughter, Julia Rose

Robert and Diane (Palazzi) Eggleston are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Julia Rose Eggleston.

Julia was born on June 8, 1999 at 9:38 a.m. She weighed seven pounds, 11 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

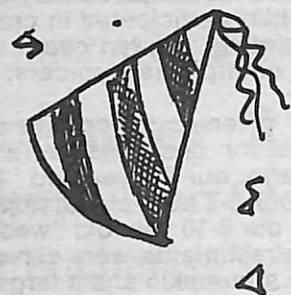
Also welcoming her home was her two year-old sister, Alyssa.

The proud grandparents are Ray and Mickey Eggleston of Feeding Hills, and Richard and Rose Palazzi of Agawam.

## Take 5 Restaurant

Steaks — Seafood — Chops

*Enjoy Your Holiday Party With Us!*



Private Room Available For Up To 35 People

Call Us Today — 786-0962

### Gift Certificates For The Holidays

*Enjoy Your New Year's Eve With Us!*

Agawam's Home Of Steaks, Chops, Seafood, Prime Rib, Baby Back Ribs, And Of Course ... Our Famous Soup And Salad Bar

**Open For Lunch**

Tuesday - Friday, 11:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

**Open For Dinner**

Tuesday - Sunday, 4:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.  
(Closed On Monday)

Enjoy Sautéed Entree  
Selections From  
Our Bistro

All Major Credit  
Cards Accepted

944 Springfield Street  
Feeding Hills  
786-0962







AIRMAN CARL J. WESLEY, JR.

## Airman Carl Wesley, Jr. Graduates From Basic Training

Air Force Airman Carl J. Wesley, Jr. has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Wesley is the son of Carl J. and Joyce A. Wesley of 528 Barry St., Feeding Hills.

He is a 1996 graduate of Agawam High School.

## Children's Halloween Party At American Legion In Agawam

Wilson Thompson Legion Post & Auxiliary Unit 185 hosted its annual Children's Halloween Party for town residents ages two to 10 years.

Children were accompanied by at least one adult. Every child participated in crafts. Children did marble painting, painted ghost and pumpkin pins, made caterpillars, spiders, and ghost necklaces.

Prizes were given to children in different age groups. Prizes for costumes were awarded to Nicole Armatage, our 2-4 year-old "butterfly"; to Austin Paro, our 5-7 year-old "campfire"; and to Autumn Paro, our 8-10 year-old "wedding cake".

Plenty of refreshments were served and every child received a pumpkin and a large bag of candy.

Committee members included Judy Jock, Auxiliary Children & Youth chairman; Glenn Seymour, Legion Children & Youth chairman; Susan Hayden, secretary/treasurer; Nikole Seymour, sergeant-at-arms; Jane Kennedy, executive committee; Marie Mahar, executive committee; William Mahar, Joann Caron, Gertrude Spagnoli; Mary Ellen Morissette, Auxiliary president; Kristine "Tina" Henson, Auxiliary senior vice-president; Janet Jock, Junior Auxiliary member; and Stephen Moser, volunteer.

\* \* \*

For photo coverage in The AAN, call us at 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice...

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CANDY A. BOUCHER, Executive Director of the Parish Cupboard, receives a \$1,000 check and groceries from the Agawam Lions Club. Mayor Christopher Johnson, club president, presented the donations to Boucher. The Parish Cupboard was formerly known as the West Springfield-Agawam Open Pantry. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



## Agawam Lions Club Makes Holiday Donations To The Parish Cupboard

The Agawam Lions Club presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to the Parish Cupboard (formerly known as the West Springfield-Agawam Open Pantry) to help with their efforts during this holiday season.

Presenting the check on behalf of the Agawam Lions Club was Chris Johnson, club president, and accepting the check on behalf of the Parish Cupboard was Executive Director Candy A. Boucher.

The Agawam Lions Club raised the funds

through their annual chicken barbeque at The Big E and other fundraising events such as the Annual Harvest Breakfast, the Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, and the Art Auction.

The Lions Club is dedicated to community service and strongly supports the efforts of the Parish Cupboard in providing food and clothing to less fortunate families in Agawam.

The Agawam Lions Club encourages all citizens to support worthwhile charitable causes during this holiday season.



AT THE AMERICAN LEGION'S CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY: Judy Jock (far left), Auxiliary Children & Youth chairman, with the prize-winning costumes — "Campfire" (Austin Paro, 5-7 age group); "Butterfly" (Nicole Armatage, 2-4 age group); and "Wedding Cake" (Autumn Paro, 8-10 age group).

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on whom his  
favor rests.”

- Luke 2:14



**Join us as we celebrate  
the birth of our Savior!**

**Friday, December 24th**

5:00 p.m. - Family Eucharist Service

11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Eucharist Service

**Saturday, December 25th**

10 a.m. - Holy Communion Service

5:00 p.m. - Regular Eucharist Service

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## Church News

### Valley Community Church's Calendar Of Activities

**Sunday, December 19th:** 9:30 a.m., Sunday Service to include Children's Christmas Pageant featuring the Junior Choir's presentation of the musical "The Little Star"; 10:45 a.m., A fellowship brunch will be held in Dunn Hall, followed by a Christmas Festival of games and activities for all; 1:00 p.m., Christmas Caroling at the Renaissance Nursing Home in Westfield.

**Monday, December 20th:** 7:00 p.m., Christmas Cookie Swap and Parish Life Fellowship in Dunn Hall.

**Wednesday, December 22nd:** 7:00 p.m., Senior Choir rehearsal.

**Friday, December 24th:** 11:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service (the community is invited to attend).

The Valley Community Church is a non-denominational church that welcomes all of the Christian faith to join us in worship and fellowship at our church on the hill at 152 S. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Our pastor, Rev. Gene deJongh, will be happy to talk with you about our services and activities at (413) 786-2445. Come join our growing church family.

### Christmas Eve Services At Agawam Congregational Church

On Friday, December 24th, there will be two Christmas Eve Services at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

The first will be at 5:00 p.m. and will feature the Christmas Pageant, "The Best Christmas Present Ever," by Rachel Olson. Co-directed by Steve Lemire, Lucy Young, and Neil Ellsworth, the Pageant will feature over 25 children and youth and will celebrate the Christmas Story. There will also be a special Christ candle ceremony, along with traditional hymns and the Youth Brass Ensemble featuring two selections ("Snow" and "Angels We Have Heard on High").

The 11:00 p.m. service will feature the traditional candlelighting with the Agawam Congregational Sanctuary Choir singing Christmas anthems.

Join us for one or both special services.

### ADVERTISER NEWS

#### MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

An inheritance incorruptible and undefiled [is] reserved in heaven for you. —1 Peter 1:4

As early as 1995, reservations were being made in fashionable hotels and resorts for celebrating New Year's Eve 1999. According to writer Calvin McDowell in *The New York Times*, the London Savoy had by then been twice overbooked. Although the charge for the evening was \$1,000, the Rainbow Room in New York City had a waiting list. So did the Waldorf-Astoria. Reservations were hard to get.

For many people, the end of the 1900s and the dawning of a new millennium brings with it the hope that life will be different. Yet one doesn't have to be endowed with the gift of prophecy to know that life is destined to continue as it was in the last millennium. For example, we can be sure that death will continue to be inescapable. We know that no one today will live to see the year 3000.

Because death is inescapable, we must answer this very thought-provoking and personal question: Have you made sure of your heavenly reservations? It's not too late. You need to put your trust in Jesus Christ now for forgiveness and cleansing of your sin. You then will have a guaranteed reservation for that home in glory (Jn. 14:2), and you can be assured that you'll celebrate with the Lord for all eternity. Make your reservation today! —VCG

*There is a place reserved in heaven  
For all who have believed;  
Eternal life is freely given  
When humbly it's received. —Sper*

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON TO PLAN FOR ETERNITY.

## Calendar From Ag. Congregational

The Fourth Sunday of Advent (Christmas Sunday) will be celebrated this Sunday, December 19th, at 10:30 a.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church (745 Main Street, Agawam), with the presentation of Christmas portions of Handel's "Messiah" by the Chancel Choir.

The program will be conducted by Ellen Cogan, Minister of Music, and accompanied by a string quartet and a pipe organ that is on loan from Mt. Holyoke College for the occasion. Helen Wyzga will play the organ, and the string players are musicians from the area.

The Club 34 (children from grades three and four) will be Ushers and Greeters at the Worship Service. The Fourth Advent Candle, the Candle of Peace, will be lighted, and a coffee hour with refreshments will follow in Bryan Hall.

At 6:15 p.m. on Christmas Sunday, December 19th, members, families, and youth will meet in the parking lot to carpool to Colonial Haven and Meadowbrook Manor for an evening of "old-fashioned" Christmas carol singing to shut-ins in the community.

Following the carol sing, all will return to the church for refreshments and celebration.

Church school for seventh through 12th grade and Confirmation classes meets at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday, with crib room through sixth grade meeting during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Each church school class will be celebrating the lighting of the Advent Candle and focusing on the Biblical message of Peace.

This Sunday, December 19th, all children will attend a Christmas party following their "Time With Children" during the worship service.

The dress rehearsal for the Christmas Eve Pageant will be Saturday, December 18th, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. You may contact Ludy Young, the co-director, for more information. Small parts are still available.

Men are invited to join the Men's Prayer Time, which meets at 7:45 each Tuesday morning.

We read from the devotional guide "Upper Room" for meditation and discussion, with time for coffee and fellowship.

Rev. Eric Bascom's book, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Pulpit," is now on sale. The \$10 book may be purchased at the church office.

On Christmas Eve, December 24th, two services will be held.

The first is at 5:00 p.m. and will include the Pageant presented by children and youth of the church and the Youth Brass Ensemble.

The second is at 11:00 p.m. and will include the reading of the Christmas lessons, much carol singing, the ACC Sanctuary Choir, a story by the interim pastor, Dr. Eric W. Bascom, and will end with the traditional lighting of candles.

All throughout the community are invited, including the members and friends of the church, residents of greater Agawam, and any young people attending college or in military service who are at home for the holidays.

For more information concerning any of our events, please call the church office at 786-7111.

**"Church News" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...**

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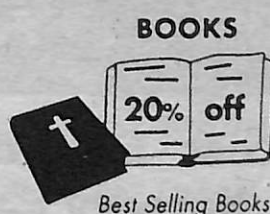
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## Church News - continued...

St. John's Parish  
News And Notes

## FOOD GIFT CERTIFICATES

At Christmas, we will once again provide food for our needy families in the form of gift certificates (we had 19 for Thanksgiving). If you would like to participate in this project, you can donate money or purchase a certificate at a nearby grocery store.

Please call Sr. Mary Clare at 786-4499, or bring your donation to the Parish Office. We will distribute the certificates by coordinating with some of the families on our Giving Tree.

Please have your gift in *before* December 19th. We thank you in their names!

## SUNDAY TO SUNDAY

Tuesday morning at Sacred Heart, 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.; Thursdays at St. John's and St. Theresa's, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday mornings at St. John's, 9:10 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Come and see. We think you will enjoy it!

## THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree adorns the Sanctuary once again this year after the marvelous experience of the last years. There were over 600 names on the tree last weekend.

Please pla[ ] to return the gift wrapped and leave the "boot" ornament on the outside with the code number visible, and return it by the 11:30 a.m. Mass on December 19th.

They will be sorted and delivered by 2:00 p.m. Thanks to all who are participating.

## AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB

Our Parish Singles Club meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Parish Center. New members are always welcome.

Call Joann, 789-0774, or John, 786-2273.

\* \* \*

**EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

\* \* \*

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## Activities &amp; Events At Sacred Heart

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT "99"

Our annual Christmas Concert at Sacred Heart Church is on Sunday evening, December 19th at 7:00 p.m., in the church.

The Senior Choir will be presenting an "Evening of Christmas Music telling the story of Christmas in Song." We will be featuring some of our own singers singing solos and duets. The Junior Choir will also be singing some very special Christmas carols.

This year, we have something new. Before the concert, we have a brass ensemble, made up of high school students from our parish, who will be playing some of our familiar Christmas carols. So be sure to come early and enjoy listening to our newly-formed "band."

Admission is free and refreshments will be served in the parish center after the concert. All are welcome.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the needy of our community.

## BLESSINGS OF GIFTS ON DECEMBER 26TH

Children and adults are invited to bring at least one gift received at Christmas to be blessed on Sunday, December 26th. The blessing will occur at each of the Masses.

## CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLAKI)

Envelopes of Christmas wafers (fuller explanation on the envelope) are now available at the rectory or in the sacristy for a donation of \$1 per envelope.

These wafers are blessed, to be broken and shared with greeting at the supper on Christmas Eve or when the whole family is able to gather at the home's communion table. Families and couples are invited to share in this rich Polish tradition.

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## Church News - continued...



## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
 Pastor of the New Life  
 Christian Church,  
 Suffield, CT  
 (413) 789-1377 or  
 toll free (877) 643-9801

## A Christmas Present For God?

At this time of year, the question is repeatedly asked, and usually answered: "What do you want for Christmas?" Most often, the answer comes in the form of an object of some sort. Children ask for toys or games. Older people may ask for articles of clothing, or perhaps books, or other adult "stuff." Some creative children will give their parents the gifts they probably want most, coupons promising they'll clean their rooms up so many times, or wash the dishes, mow the lawn, babysit younger siblings. In other words, they'll give something of themselves to another person.

Has it ever occurred to us to ask, "What would God want for Christmas?" That might seem like a silly question, because what could God possibly need or want that He doesn't already have? Of course, God does have everything He could possibly need. But does God have everything He wants? Does He have us?

It was just about 100 years ago to the day that the Lord summoned home his servant, Dwight L. Moody. Moody was probably the greatest, if not the most effective, evangelist of the 19th century. It has been asked what would happen if one man would give God his entire life, to do with him as He pleased? Dwight L. Moody was probably the closest thing God ever got as a Christmas gift from an American man.

One of Dwight Moody's compatriots summarized how Moody had given himself to God: 1) he was a fully surrendered man; 2) Mr. Moody was in the deepest and most meaning sense a man of prayer; 3) he was a deep and practical student of the Word of God; 4) he was a humble man; 5) his entire freedom from the love of money; 6) his consuming passion for the salvation of the lost; 7) he had a very definite endowment with power from on high, a very clear and definite baptism with the Holy Ghost. In other words, Dwight Moody gave God the best, indeed the only, Christmas present he could: himself!

He was a fully surrendered man. Jesus said, "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the gospel will save it." Moody understood that Jesus did not seek converts, but rather, disciples. He was willing to be ridiculed for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Some people disparagingly called him "Crazy Moody." But, 100 years later he's the man with the reputation, not them.

Mr. Moody was in the deepest and most meaning sense a man of prayer. Although he referred to himself as a preacher, Moody was much more than that. His was a prophetic voice, calling a generation of men, women, and children to respond to the love of God. Approximately one-million heard and responded over a 40-year ministry. What was Dwight L. Moody's secret? Tell them what God was saying! But if they had stood in My council, they would have proclaimed My words to My people and would have turned them from their evil ways and from their evil deeds. Preachers are always saying something, but prophets have something to say!

He was a deep and practical student of the Word of God. Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. God's Word provides all the direction we need for this life, and provides us guidance for the next. All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. Part of Moody's gift of himself to God was to recognize and respect the value of the Word of God.

He was a humble man. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. On Ronald Reagan's desk there was a plaque which read, "There is no limit what a person can do, if he doesn't mind who gets the credit." Since pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall, we would do well to be humble ourselves.

His entire freedom from the love of money. During his lifetime, Moody raised millions of dollars for worthy causes, including those who lost their homes and livelihoods in Chicago's great fire. While he and his family were comfortable, they didn't enrich themselves from the ministry. The Apostle Paul wrote, "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances ... whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Money is not bad, but the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

His consuming passion for the salvation of the lost. In this, Moody shared God's own passion. Christmas is all about God's consuming passion for the lost. For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

He had a very definite endowment with power ... a definite baptism with the Holy Ghost. Jesus said to His disciples, I am going to send you what My Father promised; but stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." To those who give themselves to God entirely is given the ability to receive the power to serve God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This Christmas, how about each of us give God a Christmas present? Like Mary, each of us can say to God, "I am the Lord's servant." Merry Christmas!

## News &amp; Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our Sunday morning service of worship begins at 10:00 a.m. and this week will include a special Christmas Pageant put on by our Sunday School.

Ushers will be Charles Horenstein and Sue Strycharz. Jeff Chapman and Rich Rozanski will be our acolytes. Carol Taylor will be our Coffee Hour Hostess.

Because of the pageant, there will be no Sunday School this week. Nursery care will be provided for the very young.

The Mitten Tree is certainly bright and colorful with all the hats, mittens, and scarves! There are only a few branches left to cover thanks to our generous church members.

The collection of hats and mittens from the tree will be given to the Council of Churches for distribution. While you're doing your holiday shopping, why not pick up an extra gift for our tree?

Come back to church at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 19th, and join with the Deacons for some Christmas caroling. Everyone is welcome!

Christian Ed will sponsor Movie Night on Friday, December 17th, at 7:00 p.m.

We will have a worship service on Christmas Eve beginning at 7:30 p.m., which will include special Bible readings and candlelight.

All are welcome to join in an extended-family celebration of Christmas.

Church members are reminded that Sunday, December 26th, is Gift & Promise Sunday.

Rev. Donaldson is not concerned with the Y2K bug; he's just going on vacation beginning December 26th! He'll be back in the pulpit on January 9, 2000.

You may rest assured that our services will go on during that time under the guidance of Diane Ball. No need to rush to your local fallout shelter!

On the calendar:  
**Friday, December 17th:** 7:00 p.m., Movie Night.  
**Sunday, December 19th:** 10:00 a.m., Christmas Pageant; 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m., Church of Redemption; 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Cub Scout Pack meeting; 6:00 p.m., Christmas Caroling.  
**Monday, December 20th:** 4:00 p.m., Daisy Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.  
**Tuesday, December 21st:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.  
**Wednesday, December 22nd:** 2:45 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.  
**Thursday, December 23rd:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

All the hometown news with us — ADVERTISER NEWS!

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### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES— DECEMBER 24, 1999

7 PM

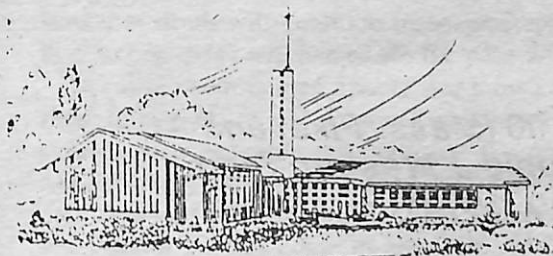
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**Church News - continued...***At Valley Community Church...***Participants Needed  
For Boar's Head  
Festival On Jan. 5th**

The Valley Community Church invites the community to participate in its fifth annual Boar's Head Festival to be held January 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the church (located at 152 S. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, MA).

The celebration of Epiphany and the Ringing in of the New Year features over 30 medieval-costumed participants and includes dancers, madrigalians, and instrumentalists.

There will be an informational meeting on Monday, December 27th, at 7:00 p.m. for those interested in participating. We are looking for those who would like to participate as non-speaking townsfolk and royalty, as well as singers and dancers.

We are especially in need of people interested in bringing their pets, such as llamas, goats, sheep, rabbits, guinea pigs, etc.

For more information about being a part of this delightful evening of celebration and spectacle, call the church at (413) 786-2445 or Lyle Pearsons at (860) 668-0858.

**Weight Loss  
Orientation Prog.  
At St. David's**

Don't be a slave to food any longer. God does not intend for food to control us, but sometimes we let this happen.

Join us at St. David's Episcopal Church for a free, no-obligation orientation about the "Weigh-Down" Program. Orientation will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 4th at 7:00 p.m. at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

This is a 12-week program for both men and women. For a registration fee, participants receive their own manuals and audiocassettes for home study. Classes will begin January 19th at 9:00 a.m. and January 20th at 7:00 p.m. Since materials must be ordered before the start of class, individuals must be registered two weeks before the first class.

For more information about this exciting program, please call Sharon at (860) 668-8701 or the church office at (413) 786-6133.

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**THE AGAWAM BAPTIST CHURCH RINGERS:** Seated — Mary Ferrari, Ethel Hutchinson, Helen Lockhart, Olive Huhtanen, and Muriel Hastings. Standing — Percy Hastings, Claire Crouss, Jean Goss, Betty James, Bernice Nowill, Aletha Hodge, and Everett Hodge.

Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

*Agawam Baptist Church Ringers...***Bells Bring Joy To Many All Year**

by **Kathy Shepard**  
Feature Editor

Everett Hodge of Agawam directs the A.B.C. Bell Ringers, which he explains is "The Agawam Baptist Church Ringers."

This name also refers to their system of reading music, a system devised by Hodge for those who wanted to join, but could not read regular music. It uses letters; hence, the name "A.B.C."

There is yet another name for this group - they are affectionately known as "The Ding-A-Lings!" They are busy doing many sing-a-longs, especially Christmas carols, and they have a set of hymns for their church. In November, they had several engagements, such as Center for Optimum Care in Westfield.

In December, they have appeared several times, including at Barnard Nursing Home in Westfield and Heritage Hall South in Agawam. On December 13th, they performed at Beaven Kelly Home and at Wingate Nursing Home in Wilbraham on December 16th, as well as other dates.

The bell ringers use Dutch handbells, heavier than the common, tingling English bell. Everett Hodge found them stored in the church in good condition and learned that about 35 years ago, the Agawam Baptist Church had an organist named Lou Merchant, who started a bell choir. They went around and earned money with their presentations, which went back into purchasing more bells.

Later, the young men in the bell choir turned their attention "to another kind of bells," Hodge chuckles, and the choir faded away. Hodge asked various church and civic groups if they would like

to use the bells, which were well preserved. Some people in the church were hesitant because they did not know how to read music.

**A System Allowing Anyone To Read Notes**

So, Hodge developed a system which enables anyone to read the notes he writes down, using the letter of the alphabet to correspond with actual notes. He started with one bell, taking each individual's music sheets and circling the note for the particular bell they were to ring.

Eventually, Hodge developed this technique into two lines, so that a person can hold a bell in each hand. A note circled red is for the right hand, black for the left. Each bell corresponds to a key on the piano, so there are 30 or more bells. The sound they produce is charming.

The A.B.C. Bell Ringers are eager to perform, said Hodge. "We do more work outside of our church than here," noted Hodge. "During the year, we do oldies' sing-a-longs." Hodge has printed sheets for those who take part. They play songs like "Down By The Old Mill Stream" and "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

There are 12 or 13 people in the handbell group and the oldest member is 86. "When we lose a member, we buy a new bell and dedicate it to the person we lost. We have to send away out-of-state to replace these bells. The big ones are from \$700 to \$800 and the smallest one is about \$200," Hodge says. "They are made of brass and are very thick."

"It's a great thrill for those who thought they could never play an instrument to be part of our group," Hodge told us.

**"Revival Week" Calendar Announced  
By Faith Bible Church In Agawam****REVIVAL WEEK**

**December 28th, 29th, 30th, & 31st**

**Tuesday, December 28th:** Speaker - Pastor Tom Crouse (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.).

**Wednesday, December 29th:** Speaker - Pastor Dave Brown (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.).

**Thursday, December 30th:** Speaker - Pastor Dave Brown (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.).

**Friday, December 31st:** Family Night at Faith Bible Church (6:00 p.m. to ???).

Come and spend a night with us at Faith Bible

Church, 370 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, during the last week of 1999. There will be four nights of dynamic preaching, and on Friday, New Year's Eve (beginning at 6:00 p.m.), there will be food, fellowship, worship, and prayer as we get on our knees to welcome Jesus into the new millennium.

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" - 2 Chron 7:14.

For more information, contact Faith Bible Church at 786-1681.

**For photo coverage in The AAN, call us at 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...**

\* \* \* \* \*





## Spotlight On Business

### Legal Memo

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.  
546 Springfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-9454



### NEGLIGENCE & TORT Slip & Fall

In 1995, the plaintiff slipped and fell on a patch of ice that was left in a depression in a walkway at an elderly housing complex owned and controlled by the defendant. The defendant had performed snow removal on the day prior to the plaintiff's accident by using a snow blower.

Although it was apparently the defendant's practice to sweep moisture out of depressions in the walkway, the plaintiff alleged that the defendant failed to do so and thereby created this patch of ice, which was compacted into the depression during the snow removal process.

The plaintiff described the patch of ice to be approximately a foot in diameter and to have small tire ruts in it consistent with the snow blower used by the defendant to remove snow and ice from the walkways.

Although subsequent changes in the temperature had melted much of the snow and ice on the ground, the patch of ice on which the plaintiff fell did not melt due to the fact that it had been compacted into the depression in the walkway by the snow blower used by the agents of the defendant. As a result of the incident, the plaintiff sustained a fractured patella, requiring surgical intervention.

The jury for the case awarded the plaintiff \$150,000.00.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

\* \* \*

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Thank you!

\* \* \*

## Yuletide Fun At Glen Gary...



**CHILDREN FROM** Mass. Mutual's pre-school group recently enjoyed a tractor ride and tour of Glen Gary Tree Farm on Shoemaker Lane. The youngsters made Christmas tree ornaments (such as a pine cone with peanut butter) and drank hot chocolate to keep Jack Frost from nipping at their noses. During the holiday season, Glen Gary's Christmas Tree Shop offers decorative crafts, tree stands, honey, and spiced cider. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



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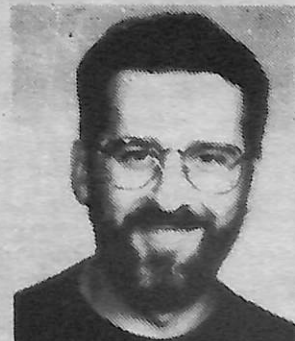


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## ... when expectations limit who we can be.

Read more about this in today's *FOR YOUR HEALTH* column.

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## Meet The Sales Associates Of The New Suburban West Regional Office



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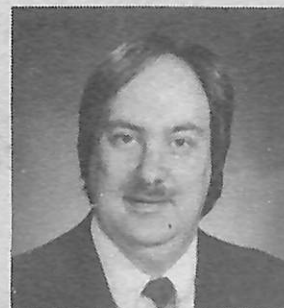
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## Holiday Items Valid To December 31st...

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Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$2.99	Lb.
Prime Rib Roast (Bone In)	\$5.69	Lb.
Whole 7-Rib Rib Roast (Cut To Order)	\$4.39	Lb.
Boneless Rib Eye Roast Or Steaks	\$5.99	Lb.
Whole Boneless Rib Eyes (Cut To Order)	\$4.99	Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins (Roast Or Steaks)	\$6.99	Lb.
Whole Boneless Top Sirloins (Cut To Order)	\$1.99	Lb.
Fresh Ground Round (Extra Lean)		
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49	Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99	Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck (Lean)		
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69	Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39	Lb.
Crown Roast Pork (Extra Fancy)	\$3.99	Lb.
Center Cut Pork Roast (Bone In)	\$2.39	Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.99	Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99	Lb.
Jordan Skinless & Shankless Hams		
(Whole)	\$1.99	Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken		
Breast	\$1.99	Lb.
American Leg Lamb (Whole In Cryovac)	\$2.69	Lb.
Janik Holiday Kielbasa	\$2.39	Lb.
Waybest Turkeys	\$1.19	Lb.

### DELI

Land O' Lakes American Cheese	\$3.69	Lb.
Cara Donna Provolone Cheese	\$2.49	Lb.

Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$3.49	Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99	Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99	Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.69	Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99	Lb.
Russer Honey Maple Ham	\$3.99	Lb.

### SEAFOOD

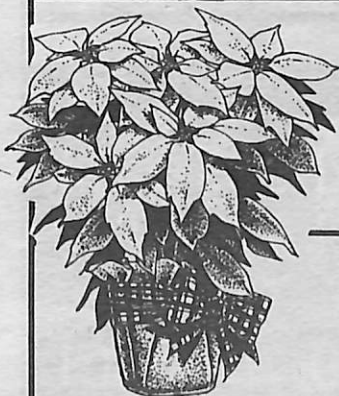
Cooked Shrimp (31-40 Count)	\$8.95	Lb.
2-Lb. Bag	\$17.00	
Frozen Can Lobster Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$13.95	
Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99	Lb.

### PRODUCE

Bananas	39	Lb.
Large Size Red Delicious & Granny Smith		
Apples	89¢	Lb.
California Navel Oranges	49¢	Each
Anjou Pears	39¢	Each
Extra Large Stuffing Peppers	89¢	Lb.
Idaho Potatoes (5 Lb. Bag)	\$1.49	
Canadian Carrots (5 Lb. Bag)	99¢	
Super Select Cucumbers	39¢	Each

### DAIRY & FROZEN

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19	
Hood Egg Nog (½ Gallon)	\$3.29	
Hood Orange Juice (Gallon)	\$2.49	
Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Dozen)	99¢	
Friendly Ice Cream (All Varieties - ½ Gallon)	2 For \$6.00	



**Christmas Poinsettias**  
Large 6½" Pot -  
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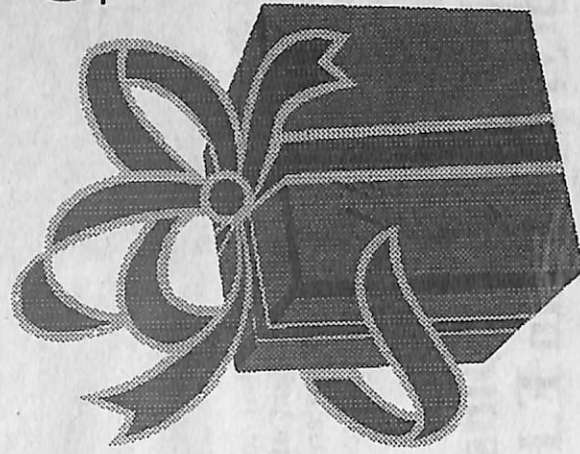
**The Staff Of Agawam Public Market Wishes Everyone  
A Merry Christmas And Best Wishes For A Happy And  
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# Holiday Fitness Special!

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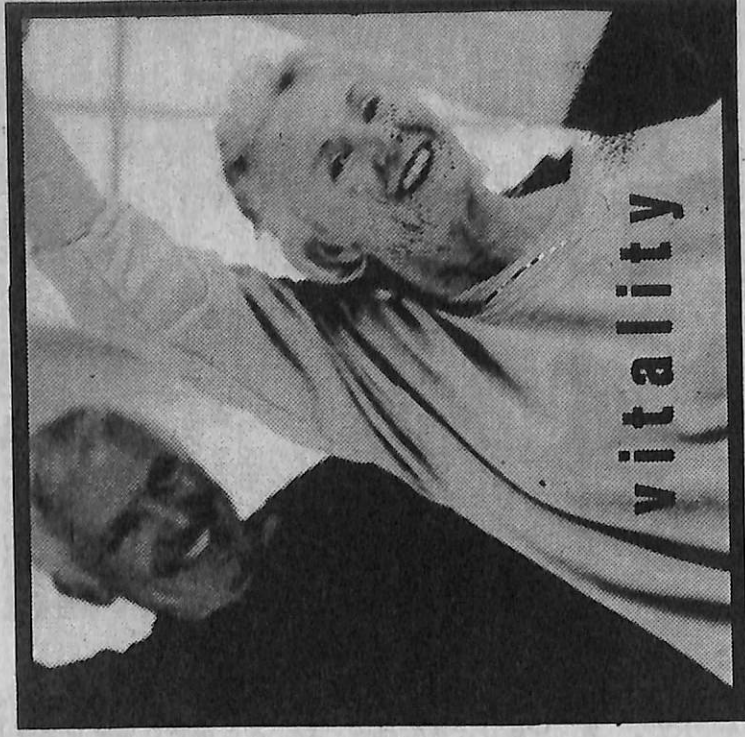
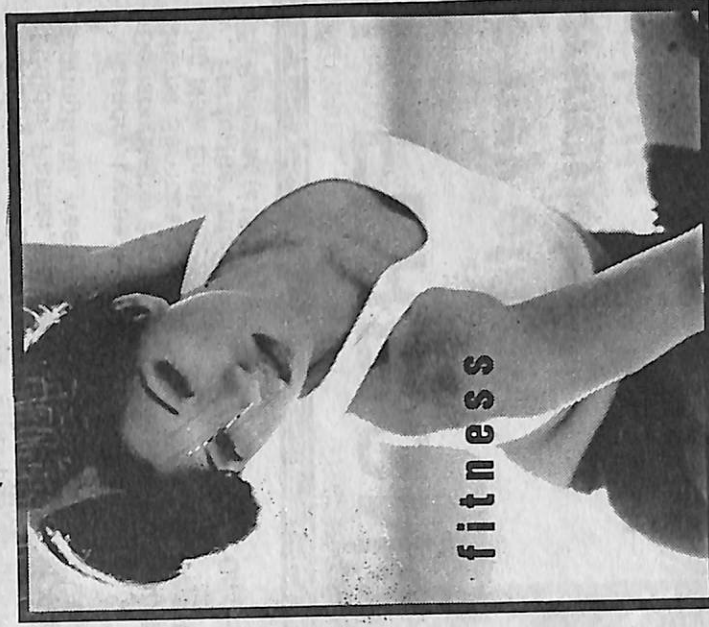
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**Spotlight On Business - continued...**

## Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home Earns Service Award

Frank A. Forastiere, president of Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home of East Longmeadow, accepted the Pursuit of Excellence Award at the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) convention held in Kansas City, Missouri, on October 31st. The presentation was at a reception to kick off the annual convention activities.

The coveted award in funeral service is the Pursuit of Excellence Recognition Award created and presented by NFDA in recognition of the outstanding achievements of creative and innovative funeral homes and their contribution to funeral service. Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home is among an elite group being individually honored from across the country.

The Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home was built in 1994 as the East Longmeadow location of the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes, which were founded in 1905 and are now in their fourth generation of service.

There are eight categories of activities and accomplishments that qualify individual funeral homes for this award. The following are Forastiere's accomplishments:

- \* Strict adherence to the NFDA Code of Ethics, including laws and regulations governing consumer protection and ethical practices of funeral directors.

- \* The unique design of the East Longmeadow funeral home, a new concept for Western Massachusetts, and new innovations (including a Children's Room and a Grief Support Center).

- \* The Forastiere philosophy focusing on serving families, meeting the individual and unique needs of each family, and providing a funeral service that is a tribute to the life that was led.

- \* An after-care program offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who needs a healthy and healing grief process.

- \* A lending library of over 500 books, brochures, and audio and videotapes available to anyone at no charge.

- \* A free Speakers Program for clubs, churches, and schools.

- \* An in-house Grief Specialist who has created a unique program called "OPTIONS ... for a better tomorrow," providing seven monthly support groups open to the communities. Teaching a one-semester course with a two-hour field trip to the funeral home, as well as teaching a high school mini-course called "Coping with Loss," in eight different high schools in Springfield and the surrounding towns. Also providing programs for nurses, medical, and health care groups with our Grief Specialist as the speaker.

- \* A Crisis Intervention with Schools to assist when a student or faculty member dies. This grief specialist and funeral director team is available to assist the students, parents, and teachers.

- \* Lastly, providing continuing education for the funeral home staff through the firm's public relations program.

The Forastiere Funeral Homes and staff were recognized as caring, compassionate, and community-concerned funeral service providers.



**THE FORASTIERE FAMILY ACCEPTS the Pursuit of Excellence Award (from left to right): Loren Forastiere, Lila Forastiere (grief counselor), Frank A. Forastiere (president of the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes), Peter A. Forastiere (vice-president of the Forastiere Family Funeral Homes), JoAnn Forastiere Skiba (pre-planning counselor and funeral director), and Mathew A. Forastiere (funeral director apprentice).**

### Pam Savioli

Landry, Lyons & Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes

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### Does Staging Work?

Staging or merchandising your home can involve minimal effort on the part of the seller. Sometimes just rearranging furniture can make a house show better.

Other tips:

- De-clutter — countertops in kitchens and bathrooms should be clear of almost everything.

- Cleanliness is also very important when it comes to selling homes. The interior of your home should gleam. If possible, wash windows inside and out. Plan to keep your home clutter-free and clean during the entire marketing period. Hire a cleaning service if you need to or ask the kids to help.

- Go through the house and fix defects — leaky faucets, broken door bells, cracked windows, etc.

- Have the furnace and air conditioning unit serviced and cleaned.

- Paint interior and ceilings if needed.

For additional information on how to merchandise or stage your home for sale, call PAM SAVIOLI at (413) 748-7565.

## Nancy Zdanis Joins Landry, Lyons In F.H.

Charles E. Reiter, President of Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens® is pleased to announce that Nancy Zdanis has joined the firm's Feeding Hills office as a sales agent.

Nancy attended the University of Massachusetts and Cape Cod Community College, where she received her degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management, and is looking forward to applying her customer service skills in her real estate career. She presently resides in Southwick.

According to Senior Vice President of Sales, Mary Leahey, "We are pleased that Ms. Zdanis has selected Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall to pursue her career in real estate."

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens®, a GMAC Home Services company, is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts with over 240 sales agents and 14 regional offices serving Chicopee, Agawam/Feeding Hills, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Palmer, Sixteen Acres, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

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For further information, please contact Charles E. Reiter at (413) 782-6000.

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**Spotlight On Business - continued...**

**THE 1995 DEBUT OF "CAMP HOOCHEE COOCHEE"** — the brainchild of Toner Plastics, Inc. — with company employees Beth McDonald and Tom Lonergan and president Steve Graham. This Saturday, December 18th, there will be a tour of the factory between 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.; call 789-1300 for details.

## Toner Plastics, Inc. Of Agawam Now Selling Products Directly To The Public

Toner Plastics, Inc. is a local manufacturer located at 699 Silver St. in Agawam. The company manufactures plastic lace, better known as Gimp or Lanyard, which is used for braiding and weaving and adds beads, pompoms, feathers, and many other items to create craft activity kits. It also has kits that use hemp for jewelry and


bead kits with wire.

The company has decided to try selling to the public by opening up a small section of its factory to the public. You can find boxes and boxes of beads, all kinds of different colored lace, including glow-in-the-dark, some closeout products, instruction books, free project sheet, and great

pricing.

Schools, scouts, and others are welcome to schedule a factory tour or show up this Saturday, December 18th, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for a tour of the factory, as well as to shop.

Call 789-1300 for details.




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**786-1128**

# Alexander's

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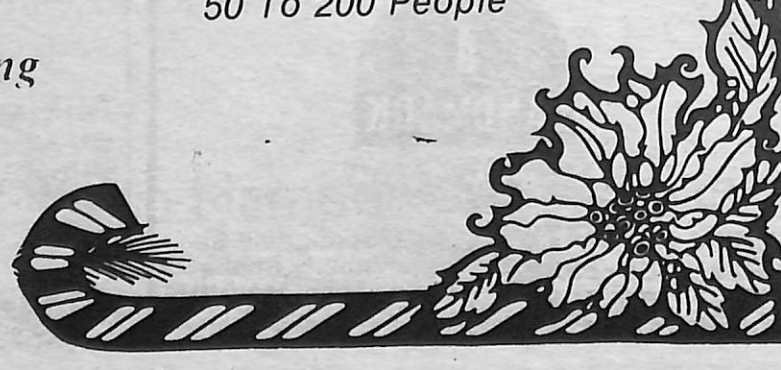
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**We Are Now Open On  
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**Spotlight On Business - continued...**

### Timely Tips On How To Manage Your Finances

by Sue & Charlie Alvanos  
Personal Financial Advisors  
American Express  
534-3883

#### Creating A Legacy Through Planned Giving...

(Author's note: Characters portrayed in the following scenario are fictional.)

The Jacobsons, feeling grateful for all they had accumulated over the years, were anxious to share some assets with their heirs during their lifetime. After talking with a financial advisor about gifting to their children and grandchildren, they found they could give as much as \$10,000 a year each to an unlimited number of people without triggering a gift tax. (And that the amount will rise with inflation starting in 1999.)

Even better yet, since the Jacobsons are married, they can *each* give \$10,000 — making a tax-free gift of \$20,000 a year to each heir possible. Since two grandchildren are college students, they also learned it's allowable to exceed the \$10,000 limit by paying tuition bills. That way, they can make gifts of larger amounts as long as the checks are made payable directly to the college.

By making their gifts now, the Jacobsons found they could reduce their estate tax liability — and make this year's holidays extra pleasant for family members.

While the Jacobsons found several advantages to family member gifting, other taxpayers have jumped on the planned giving bandwagon, with charitable organizations as beneficiaries. That way, they are able to contribute to the causes they choose and potentially reduce their income and estate tax burdens.

If you've considered a charitable giving strategy, here are a few techniques to consider:

**Donation of assets.** There's no limit to how much you can give to children, and your contributions are generally not subject to gift or estate tax. During your lifetime, you may want to take advantage of additional tax breaks by giving appreciated assets such as stocks or stock fund

\* \* \*

**EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

\* \* \*

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shares that you've held at least a year. You not only avoid capital gains tax on such assets, you also get a tax deduction for their full appreciated value, subject to certain IRS limitations.

**Life insurance.** Gifts of life insurance provide your charitable organization with the security of future bequests. Upon your death, the organization receives the policy proceeds without tax liability or administrative costs. By purchasing a life insurance policy and naming a charity as owner and beneficiary, you may be eligible for a current income tax deduction and for tax deductions in the future.

**Charitable remainder trusts (CRTs).** Charitable remainder trusts are gaining in popularity because they can provide income and estate tax advantages. Here's how they typically work:

1. The donor gives assets to a qualified charity via a tax-exempt CRT.
2. The donor, spouse, or other beneficiaries receive regularly scheduled payments for life or for a term of years.
3. Assets can grow tax-exempt inside the trust.

When they are sold, they generate no capital gains tax in the trust.

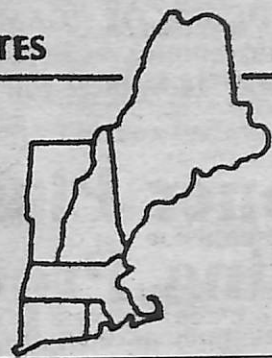
4. Because a charitable tax deduction reduces current income taxes, the donor may receive favorable tax treatment as a result of the donation.

5. The charity receives the assets at the end of the term of years or at the death of the last remaining beneficiary.

In some cases, assets given to the CRT can be replaced for the heirs by using life insurance in a Wealth Replacement Irrevocable Trust. Your tax savings can fund a policy in an amount you select, free of income and estate taxes.

You can see that when it comes to gifting strategies, you have a variety of options. Depending on your priorities and your personal situation, planned giving can be an important part of your legacy. Because not all techniques are appropriate for everyone, it's best to consult your attorney, tax and financial advisors to see which ones are best suited for your overall financial and estate plans.

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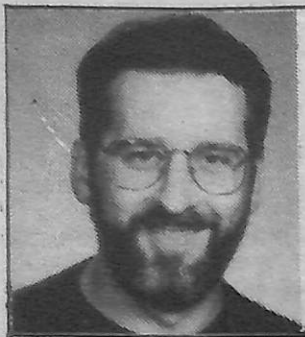
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Marriage &  
Family Therapist  
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Agawam, MA 01001  
(413) 789-4460**

### Looking For Happiness In A Square Box...

I was eight years-old as best as I can remember. It was Christmas morning as I frantically looked over and under every present, hoping against hope that I would find a big square box with my name on it.

This couldn't be right, I thought, that square box had his name on it. He tossed it aside just as quickly as he ripped the wrapping paper off. He didn't even play with it! He went on his way tossing aside anything that didn't have his name on it looking for his treasure - a guitar.

I remember crying on the sidelines of torn wrapping paper and empty boxes. There were six of us rummaging under the tree as Mom and Dad sat on their respective living room chairs.

None of the remaining boxes were large or square enough, so I didn't open any of the remaining presents with my name on them. If I couldn't have my basketball, then I didn't want anything!

Soon, my brother sat disappointed, too! Yes, that's right, his guitar lay unwrapped with my name on it, while my ball lay tossed aside out of my reach.

I don't remember how it all came to pass, but somehow the 'miracle swap' took place. He was playing his new guitar and I dribbled my ball throughout the house.

\*\*\*

A mix-up? Perhaps. A lesson learned? For sure! **Expectations**, we can't live with them and we can't live without them.

As the days approach the eagerly awaited, much anticipated, and most highly advertised day of the year, I ask you, "How ya doing?" Last week, I spoke about trying to slow down enough to not miss the many opportunities for healthy relationship building.

The good news is that it is never too late to consider how you can be a gift to another person echoing the sentiment of the true meaning behind all this anticipation, God with us!

One view of the stable, as I see it, is that the infant wasn't what we were expecting. His is a messy story! Wrapped in barn rags laying in a feeding box on a cold evening. Accompanied by smelly animals and street people loitering in the neighborhood. Parents shun from town because they were unwed and pregnant.

This was not the triumphant beginning of the sought of King they expected who would rise to lead His people with the sword against Roman oppression.

These holidays can be especially difficult for many people. The challenge to appear pleasant and happy in the face of feeling real loneliness or grief over the loss or separation from loved ones can be profound. All kinds of oppression surround us.

If it's all about wrapping paper and square boxes that may have the wrong name on it, then you, too, may be in for a letdown. What are your special gifts? How can you continue to challenge yourself to live into your unique potential?

How are you preparing yourself to receive the opportunity of the season? Can His coming make a difference to you? Can you make a difference in someone else's life? Can you make a difference in your own life? How are you reaching out to give or receive an attempt at mending a broken relationship? How are you meeting the stranger?

The complexity of expectations.

"Let's Talk about it" is a regular weekly feature from Dan Pender, MA., M.F.T. Marriage & Family Therapist. Dan maintains a private practice in Agawam, MA. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy. He is also a local professional Church educator and can be reached by e-mail (AOL screen name: dpmft449) or P.O. Box 449, Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 789-4460. Please respond with your feedback, relationship questions and topics and "Let Talk about it."

\* \* \*

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## Agawam Residents Help Easter Seals



**AGAWAM RESIDENTS** Rick Hanchett (left), vice-president of WestBank, and Ed Borgatti (right), owner of E.B's Restaurant, with Kate Parker, administrator of Birch Manor Nursing Home in Chicopee, at the kick-off for the Easter Seals Annual Campaign 2000. Their fundraising efforts will help support Easter Seals services that benefit adults and children with disabilities in the Agawam community.

*Please patronize your local businesses during this holiday season ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

\* \* \* \* \*

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**For Your Health - continued...**



**Your Back And Your Health**

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

**Question:** The fall season found me raking and picking up many bags of wet leaves. I am now painfully aware of hip and back pain. After bending or sitting, the pain runs down the back of the leg and I even have a little numbness in my foot. Can chiropractic help?

**Answer:** Low back pain and sciatica are frequently misunderstood conditions. They are often improperly diagnosed and improperly treated.

Actually, sciatica is a painful irritation of the largest nerve in the body, which supplies the tissues of the thigh, lower leg, and foot. It is most often caused by pinching of one or more of the nerve roots (beginnings of a nerve) where they exit from the spine.

The most common cause of pinching is due to structural misalignment of the lower vertebrae of the spine or pressure being exerted on the nerve root by a disc. A disc may rupture, protrude, herniate, or bulge and result in mechanical irritation to the nerve root.

Since the sciatic nerve is so large (about as big around as the thumb), interference or irritation along its course can cause a variety of symptoms. It may cause crippling pain. Or it may be more subtle and result in numbness, "pins and needles" sensation, burning, or a crawling sensation.

Many times, the leg feels weak, the foot may "drop" or drag. If the nerve remains pinched for a long period of time, the muscles of the leg may become permanently reduced in size (atrophied). Sciatica is commonly associated with low back pain and the individual may have a history of a weak back.

Treating low back pain and sciatica with painkillers and muscle relaxers may provide temporary relief. However, no drugs can correct an underlying structural cause. Rarely do misaligned vertebrae or disc problems correct themselves spontaneously and permanently.

Chiropractic care is a good place to start. In case you are not yet aware of it, the U.S. government's Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) has made some remarkable statements regarding contemporary treatment for low back pain. In addition to mild analgesics and application of heat/ice, **spinal manipulation** (spinal adjustments), when performed by a professional, can be helpful for many! The doctor of chiropractic is a well-trained professional with a variety of methods of conservative treatment of low back pain and sciatica. Should your problem require an alternative treatment, your chiropractor will refer you to the appropriate physician.

**Managing YOUR STRESS**

by Dr. Stephen Sobel  
M.S., S.M.C.



**Stressed To The Max???  
Then Read This Now!!!**

Here are a few things for your stress inoculation "to do" list:

- Realize that getting a bit of crap on your shoe does not have to ruin the ENTIRE trip. Just clean it off and keep walking!
- Stop whining, start winning!
- Eat food that produces less gas (your colleagues with appreciate this).
- Concentrate on exercising regularly. Stop obsessing on what outfit to wear or if you should wear a designer headband.
- If you hope to peacefully co-exist with your teenager, then you will need to practice the art of compromise more often. You cannot always be General Patton.
- Taking a nap when needed is a courageous act, not a cowardly event!
- Yes, even a guy named Tex can stand to read a little more poetry.



**Food for Thought**

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

**"Myths About Ulcers"**

One in 10 Americans will develop an ulcer at some point and common misconceptions will lead many of them to make unnecessary lifestyle changes.

For instance, some people believe milk is good for ulcers. In fact, it may relieve ulcer pain briefly

\*\*\*

Best local  
news with  
US...  
\*\*\*

- Fall asleep more often WHILE reading a good book; you'll have great dreams.
- Wear your red foam clown nose while you fill your car up with gas at the self-serve. It makes the people who are at full-serve feel uncomfortable and guilty.
- Don't be afraid to ask some kind soul to rub your sore and tense shoulders. I stop people all the time in the supermarket and say, "Hey, would you mind rubbing out the knots in my shoulders and back?"
- Wear outrageous underwear to work, especially on those days when you can tell it will be one of those days! The effect is remarkable.
- Stop eating lunch or taking breaks with negative people; they will ruin your meal.
- Teach a parrot to talk — you will both learn a lot about perseverance and patience.
- Know that moods are meant to pass ... accept it.

• When you jog, stop looking like you just ran 27 miles through the Sahara desert — smile a little! What is that painful look all about?

• Always say to everyone you meet, "You have exceptional ability." This will absolutely pave the way for keeping you the topic of discussion.

• Understand that life is for TOTAL LIVING, LOVING, AND LAUGHING — it is not meant for extreme whining, whining, and complaining!

**ABOUT DR. STEVE SOBEL:** One of the country's leading motivational speakers and humorists who regularly is called upon to provide the feature presentation at conferences and events on the statewide, regional, and national levels. Call 1-800-874-7189 for presentation topics and product info. (book, etc.).

... but the protein in milk actually stimulates acid production in the stomach, which can irritate ulcers.

Another myth; stress and too much stomach acid are the main causes of ulcers. The usual culprit is actually a "bacteria" called H-pylori ... which can make the stomach and upper intestinal lining vulnerable to ulceration. One more myth: if you have ulcers, say goodbye to spicy foods.

In reality, a bland diet won't help if you have the H-pylori bacteria. What may help is a course of antibiotics and other medication ... so see your doctor if you think you have an ulcer.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030; (413) 786-2957. Accepting Tufts, Secure Horizons, and Harvard Pilgrim.

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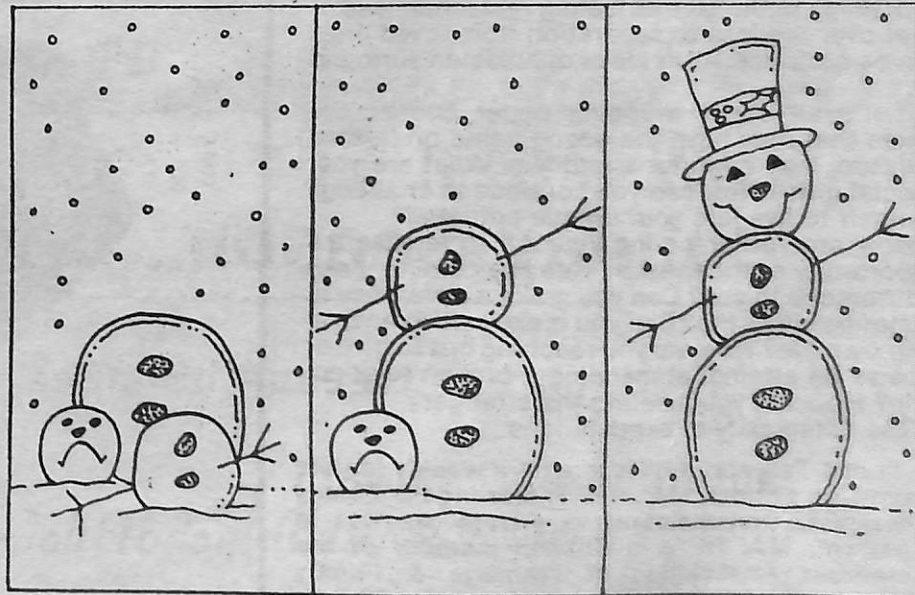
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SHAPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS**



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786-4820





*For Your Health - continued...*

**Chiropractic Care**  
by  
**Dr. Tami Nelson**  
Chiropractic  
Physician  
Hampden County  
Chiropractic  
850 Springfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
786-4820

### Keeping Comfortable While Traveling...

During vacations, we often experience neck and low back pain, even if we don't usually have problems. This may be due to extended periods of time driving in the car, sleeping on a different mattress, laying on the beach, or doing things we don't normally do. Here are some tips that may help minimize the discomfort:

1. Bring a towel with you in the car. Roll it up and place it behind your low back. This will help support your spine while driving or riding. Also, bring a smaller towel, roll it up, and place around the neck to help support that region during long drives.

2. Bring your own pillow on the trip. Oftentimes, hotel pillows are too large and aren't good for the neck.

3. Try stretching your low back and neck prior to going to bed. Oftentimes, the muscles are tight from overusing them during the day, which can then cause more discomfort when sleeping on a foreign mattress.

4. At the end of the day, elevate your legs before

you retire. On vacation, many times we're on the go, running here and there without resting. When we finally rest, the legs are throbbing with pain. Lay on the floor and raise your legs against the wall. Stay for 10-15 minutes. This allows the blood to return to the center of the body. I remember reading that Shirley MacLaine (dancer, singer, actress; you know you're getting old when you have to explain who she is!) would elevate her legs

every night for 30 minutes. She claims that has kept her legs youthful. Worth trying, anyway!

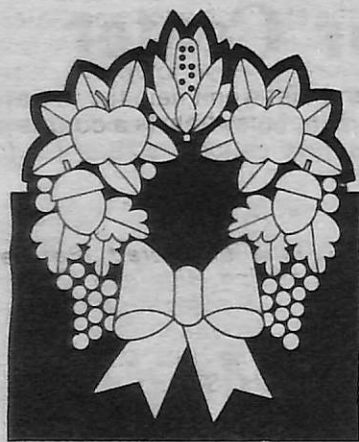
So, enjoy your vacations by limiting your discomfort.

**Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.**

*"For Your Health" is just one more reason why you read  
The Agawam Advertiser News...*

\* \* \* \* \*

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## Arts

### Open Auditions For STAGE's Musical At The Red Door Theatre

Auditions have been set for STAGE's Teen Theatre Ensemble for Sunday, December 19th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Auditions are for "Pictures At An Exhibition," a musical journey through the visual world of great works of art. Auditioners must be between the ages of 14 and 21, and be prepared to perform a short musical number. An accompanist will be provided.

Auditions will be held at The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The show is scheduled for January 28th and 29th at 7:30 p.m., and January 30th at 2:00 p.m.

For ticket reservations or additional information about the auditions, call (413) 789-2026.

### Agawam Millennium Bash To Celebrate The Year 2000

Come join us as we count down to the year 2000. Bring your friends, as everyone is welcome!

A Millennium Bash is being held to celebrate the new millennium with friends, old and new. So, bring yours and join us on Friday, December 31, 1999 at The Carriage House at Storowton Tavern.

The festivities begin at 7:30 p.m. and will include cocktails, food, and dancing, along with a whole lot of fun. A champagne toast will celebrate the new year at midnight, with the merriment concluding at 1:00 a.m.

The cost for the evening is just \$75 per person. Reservations may be made by calling any of the following: Stephen Grenier, 786-3629; Maria Sutton Drake, 786-2522; or Fred Withee, 732-4188.

Attendance must be confirmed prior to the event; invites will not be accepted at the door.

### They're First Aid Certified...



THE STAFF MEMBERS of Shooting Star Dance Center in Agawam have completed the prescribed course in Community First Aid & Safety under the instruction of Dave Martin. The following staff members certified in CPR/First Aid Responder are Candace Flaherty, Lynn Hadden Quinn, Brenda Hadden, Erinn Gormley, and Karen Buoniconti (missing from photo).

### Ballroom Dancing On Friday Nights At The Agawam Senior Center

Are you looking for someplace to go on Friday evenings? The Senior Center offers ballroom dancing every Friday night at the Agawam Senior Center at 68 Meadowbrook Manor (off Wright Street).

Dance from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. for a \$5 donation, which includes punch, coffee, tea, and dessert. For more information, call 789-3838 or fax (413) 789-4092.

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Custom fitting available with Mission Skate Bake Oven at no charge!

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**BAR OPENS at 6:P.M.**

**Hors D'oeuvres**

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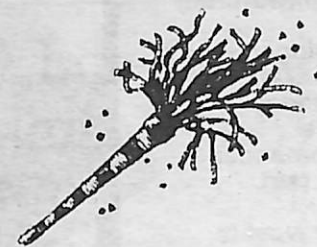
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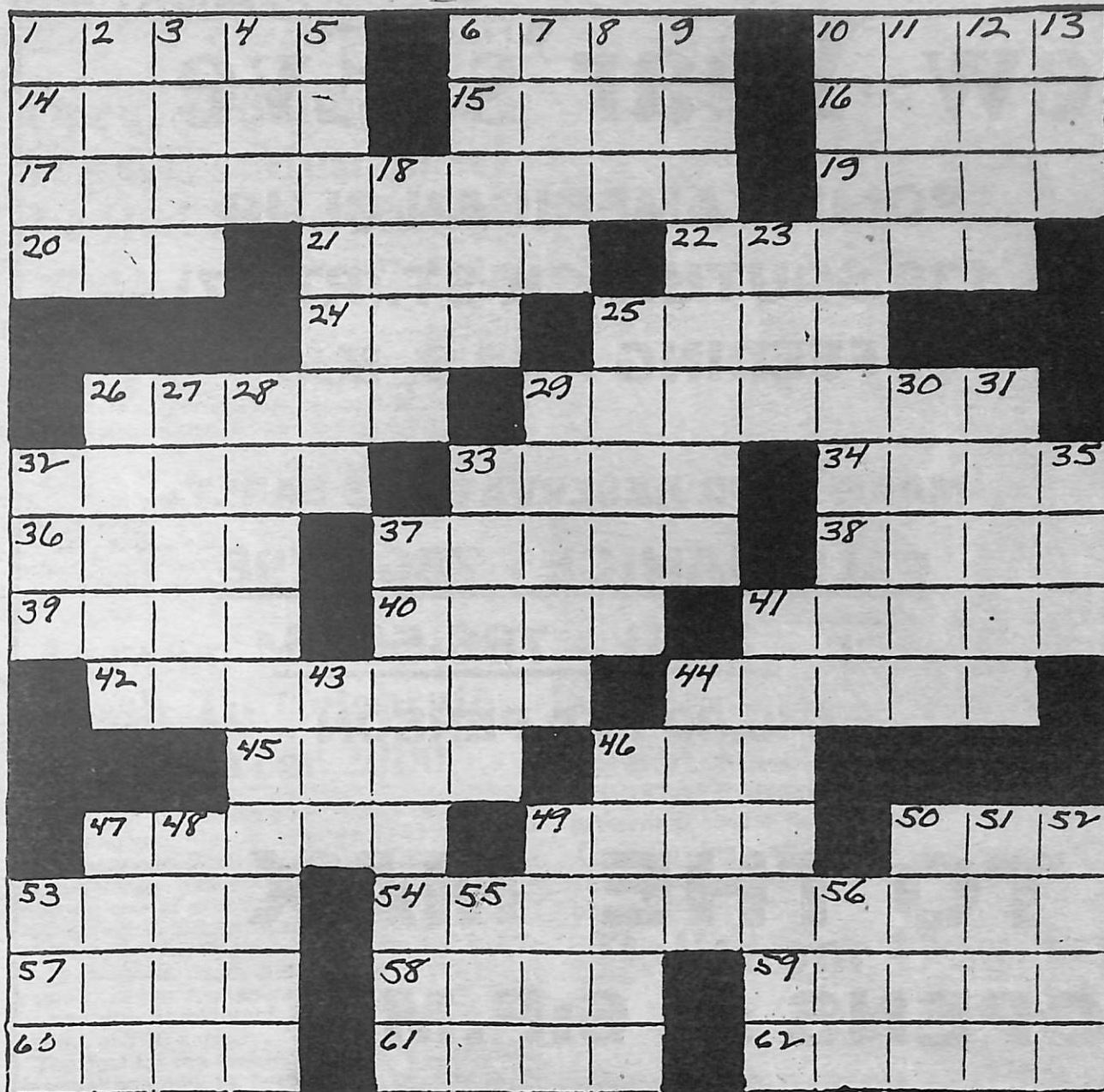
**Final Deadline: Sunday, December 26th**

**REMEMBER: BINGO- TUESDAY -**

**NIGHTS AT - 6:45 p.m.**



# Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



## ACROSS

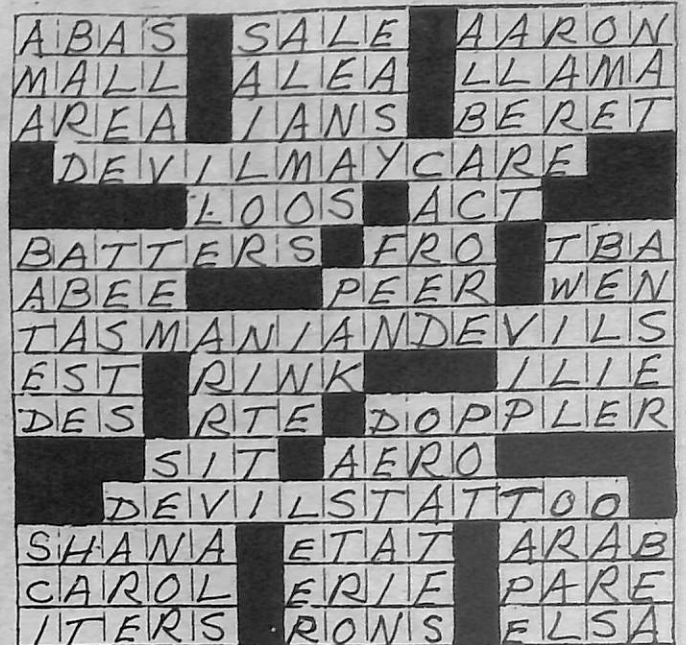
- 1 Civil disturbances
  - 6 — avis (rare bird)
  - 10 Word with up or down
  - 14 Flynn who played Hood
  - 15 Andy's radio partner
  - 16 General's assistant
  - 17 Untouchable things
  - 19 They run the ship
  - 20 Brit's beverage
  - 21 —do-well
  - 22 Moses' brother
  - 24 Mom's mate
  - 25 Existence (Latin)
  - 26 — down (watered)
  - 29 Dwells
  - 32 Sub's pinger
  - 33 Actress Garr
  - 34 Persia today
  - 36 Oil cartel
  - 37 Rural romancer
  - 38 Central part
  - 39 Box
  - 40 Popular weekly mag.
  - 41 Commanded
  - 42 Patriots or Giants
  - 44 Indian princess
  - 45 Wine and —
  - 46 Service (abbr.)
  - 47 Mozart output
  - 49 Hold back
  - 50 T.V. listing
  - 53 Fair to middlin
  - 54 The Pope
  - 57 Cooking chamber
  - 58 Malignant
  - 59 Nettled
  - 60 PGA golfer Patty
  - 61 Identical
  - 62 Copenhagen residents
- ## DOWN
- 1 Musical interval
  - 2 Dies —
  - 3 Killer whale
  - 4 Crag
  - 5 Like Twiggy
  - 6 Sped
  - 7 Cupid
  - 8 Tier
  - 9 Lee H. Oswald for one
  - 10 Religious picture
  - 11 Neophyte
  - 12 First garden
  - 13 Church seat
  - 18 — to the world
  - 23 — was saying

- 25 Scary
- 26 Willie of billiards
- 27 "What's Up, Doc?" star
- 28 Psalm
- 29 Paper measures
- 30 Waste away
- 31 Wrapper for 44A
- 32 Titanic call
- 33 Cord
- 35 Writer Buntline
- 37 Terrible aromas
- 41 Cafe worker

- 43 Ovid's seven
- 44 Coral composition
- 46 Manner
- 47 Stir
- 48 Druggie
- 49 Far from obese
- 50 Comparative conjunction
- 51 Beast (Fr.)
- 52 War god
- 53 Weep
- 55 Eggs
- 56 Refrain syllable

"Meet The Master" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...

## Last Week's Solution...



\* \* \*

**EARLY DEADLINE:** The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

\* \* \*

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SALE!

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## Education

### Ag. High School's Guidance Bulletin

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES:** Congratulations! Jennifer Cook: Simmons College. Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle: Siena College. John Pearson: Johnson and Wales University, Champlain College.

**Crystal Place:** Simmons College.

**Jenna Butler:** Bay Path College.

**Lynn Hopkins:** College of St. Rose.

**COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS/COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATIONS:** Seniors are reminded that envelopes and stamps for college transcripts and counselor recommendations should be in the guidance office as soon as possible. Because many schools have rolling admissions, it is to your benefit to have them in early.

**FINANCIAL AID:** Some colleges use the CSS/Financial Aid Profile to determine a student's eligibility for financial aid. A list of these schools is available from your counselor. If you need to file the Profile, this is a two-step process. You should be completing the first step before the end of the month. See your counselor if you have any questions.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** The following college is offering scholarships to qualified students who plan to enroll there:

**James Madison University.**

**OPEN HOUSES:** See your counselor for more information.

**Framingham State College:** January 28th or January 29th.

### Phelps Receives Fish Tank By Way Of "Aquademics"

Dave's Soda & Pet City has teamed up with Tetra in offering three local schools a chance to study aquatics hands-on.

Through a program called Aquademics, 15-gallon fish tanks, complete with fish, set-up kits, and classroom guides have been donated to schools in Agawam, Hadley, and Springfield.

Schools receiving the tanks were Phelps School in Agawam, Pottinger School in Springfield, and Mosior School in Hadley. Schools were picked at random to receive the tanks so students and teachers could study aquatics without having to leave the classroom!

According to teachers at all of the schools, the students are thrilled with the donations and have already begun learning about their new friends!

### "Do I Hear Another Bid???"



IN PHOTO ABOVE: Joe & Rose Rossi, auctioneers/appraisers, at the December 3rd auction which raised nearly \$7,000 for the Agawam Middle School. IN PHOTO BELOW: Sue Dawson got a great deal on a few items at the auction. (She was even paid \$1 to take a large desk away!) Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Check our  
classified ads...

## Decisions. Decisions. Decisions.

Your loved ones may make more than 120 decisions related to your funeral—most in the first 24 hours after your death. Fortunately, there's a way to avoid adding to their burden of grief. It's called preplanning, and with Curran-Jones & Family Considerations®, it's a simple process you can do today.

To learn about all the facts and benefits of funeral preplanning, call us today. You'll receive a valuable *Family Considerations® Planning Guide*—absolutely FREE and without obligation.

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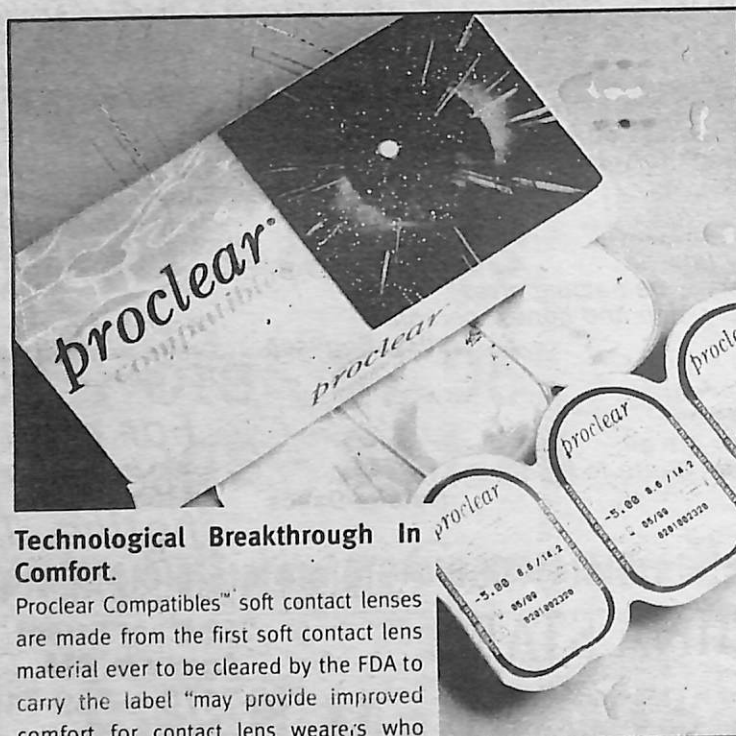
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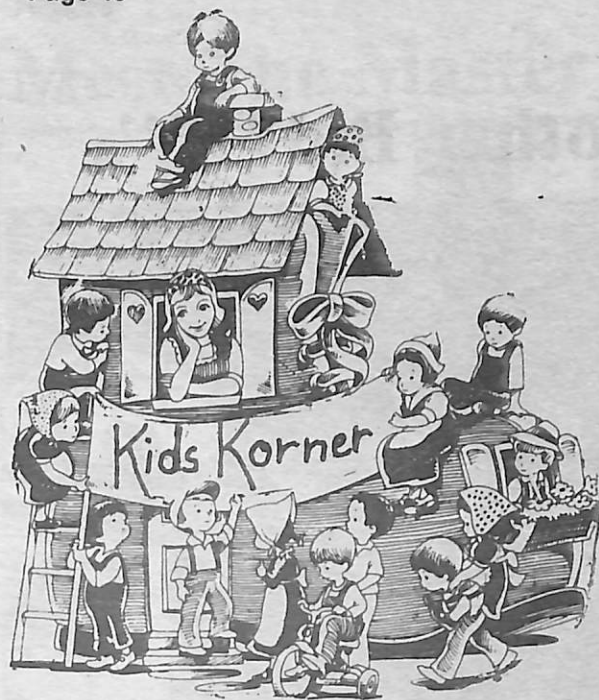
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## December Poetry

2-4-6-8 Poems

by Grade 2, Room 16

Mrs. Sharon Gendron's Class  
Granger School

*Christmas Season  
Christmas trees light up.  
I open presents on Christmas Day.  
After they are open, then I can play.*

**Jessie Friedrich**

*Flying reindeer  
Rudolph is a reindeer.  
Rudolph the red-nose reindeer can fly.  
Rudolph and the other reindeer are very nice.*

**Nicholas Giusto**

*Santa Claus  
He's fat and jolly.  
He rides in a red sleigh.  
He has a red nose and white beard.*

**Gregorio Santa**

*Christmas time  
Getting lots of presents.  
Angels flying by in the sky.  
Christmas is a good time for getting toys.*

**Ashley Fortier**

*Rudolph's nose  
Rudolph's nose is bright  
Rudolph is a very red-nose reindeer.  
Rudolph is a red-nose reindeer and flies high.*

**Gina Grimaldi**

*Santa Claus  
Santa Claus is nice.  
Santa Claus brings lots of toys.  
Santa Claus rides his reindeer on Christmas day.*

**Sarah Daglio**

*Christmas tree  
Your decorations are pretty.  
We always put stars on you.  
Every year I look forward to decorating you.*

**Scott Urban**

*Santa Claus  
Santa is very fat.  
Santa has very little helping elves.  
Santa is a very nice and honest person.*

**Dalton Boglisch**

*Rudolph Reindeer  
He has a red-nose.  
He is flying in the air.  
Rudolph asked Santa to go get the toys.*

**Natalie Danos**



**THE ROOM 16 SECOND-GRADERS** at Granger Elementary School with teaching assistant Joanne Prout (back row - left), student teacher Kristen Schmaelzle (back row - center), and teacher Sharon Gendron (back row - right). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

*Santa Claus  
Santa is very jolly.  
Santa's coat is very, very red.  
Santa is one of the most nicest people.*

**Matthew Cassie**

*Christmas night  
The night is fun.  
I play with my cousin Ashleen.  
Then I go to my home to sleep.*

**Anna Matys**

*Christmas Eve  
Reindeer fly in air.  
Santa eats cookies and drinks milk.  
People hang candy canes from trees and stockings.*

**Michael Stempel**

*Santa Claus  
Santa is really jolly.  
Santa likes to eat food alot.  
Santa with alot of elves are making toys.*

**Alex Jones**

*Christmas day  
I like Christmas day.  
Christmas day is fun for me.  
On Christmas day I am with my family.*

**Abbey Massaro**

*Rudolph reindeer  
Flying through the air.  
His red-nose shines all night long.  
He loves going out for this special night.*

**Mary Malone**

*Santa Claus  
Flies down our chimneys  
He is a happy jolly man.  
When he visits us he leaves us presents.*

**Daniel Dintzner**

*December parties  
Green and red colors.  
The party will be Christmas Eve.*

*Santa Claus comes to town the next day.*  
**Alex Einzig**

*Santa Claus  
Brings alot of presents.  
I always like what I get.  
Santa has never forgotten to give me presents.*  
**Eric Mercure**

*Christmas time  
Christmas time is nice.  
Christmas is a time for toys.  
Candy canes and ornaments hanging from the trees.*  
**Victoria Parent**

*Christmas fun  
Candy canes hung up.  
Angels and ornaments hung all up.  
Under a Christmas tree I see some toys.*  
**Shannen O'Brien**

*Santa Claus  
He's fat and jolly.  
He's coming to town today.  
He is coming to town right now today.*  
**Alex Thomas**

*Christmas eve  
It's good for Santa.  
Santa Claus brings lots of presents.  
I open all my presents on Christmas morning.*  
**Gabriell Nunez**

*Rudolph Reindeer  
Rudolph's nose does glow.  
Rudolph is a very cute reindeer.  
Rudolph is a little reindeer, North Pole.*  
**Taryn Frazee**

*Rudolph reindeer  
Red-nosed, flying all night.  
He enjoys his whole flight.  
Bringing presents for children along with Santa Claus.*  
**Brittany Howard.**

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**MORE KIDS' KORNER...****'If I Met Santa...'**

by Grade 2, Room 4  
Mrs. Anna Crean's Class  
Robinson Park School

If I met Santa, I would tell him that I have been good and what I would like for Christmas. On Christmas Eve, I would hide behind my Christmas tree and spy on Santa to see what he was bringing to me. I think he doesn't want anyone to see all the presents he made for us until morning.

Keven Brown

If I met Santa, I would tell him that I was going to give one of my presents to someone who needs one. I would tell him that I have been good all year. Then I would ask him how he could deliver all those presents in one night. He must work very hard!

Arianne Brust

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would ask him how Rudolph got his red nose. I then would ask him how many elves help him make all the toys he gives to us.

Joseph Ceccarini

If I met Santa Claus, I would ask him for Pokemon cards, a skateboard, or a train.

Joseph Commene

If I met Santa, I would ask him for a skateboard. I would ask him for a bag of treats for my cat, Sheba, who sleeps under the Christmas tree and drinks the water.

Amanda Cummings

If I met Santa, I would ask him if he has any presents for me. If he has any gifts for me, maybe he could give them to the poor children and leave only one for me and one for my sister.

Miranda Dondero

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would ask him how cold it is on the North Pole. And why he lives there. And I would ask him why only Rudolph has a red nose. Then I would ask him for a China doll.

Maxine Dudek

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would ask him why he comes down the chimney and not through the door. I would ask him why he likes milk and cookies and not juice and brownies. I hope he brings my family many presents.

Elizabeth Gloster

If I met Santa, I would say, "Hi." I would tell him what I wanted for Christmas, and I would ask him how he and his reindeer got around the world so quickly. Maybe he would like a cookie my mom and I make just for him.

Joshua Goggin

If I met Santa, I would sit on his lap and ask for Nintendo, Play Station, chocolate candy bars and candy canes, hockey skates, a radio, and a skateboard.

Jonathan Quimet

If I met Santa, I would ask him how he gets around the world in one night. I would ask him if he puts rollerblades on his sled when there is no snow. I would ask him if he would let me help deliver all his presents. He needs a lot of help.

Bradford Siegars

If I met Santa, I would ask him if I could see his elves. I would want to know how he made all the toys. When I grow up, I would like to help Santa make all the toys for all the good boys and girls.

Cody Smith

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would faint. Last year, I fell asleep waiting for Santa. I always leave Santa and the reindeer a snack.

Brandon Clark

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I'd tell him what I want for Christmas and get him some milk and cookies. After that I'd go back to bed, and on Christmas morning I'd open my presents and play with them.

Kenny Ung

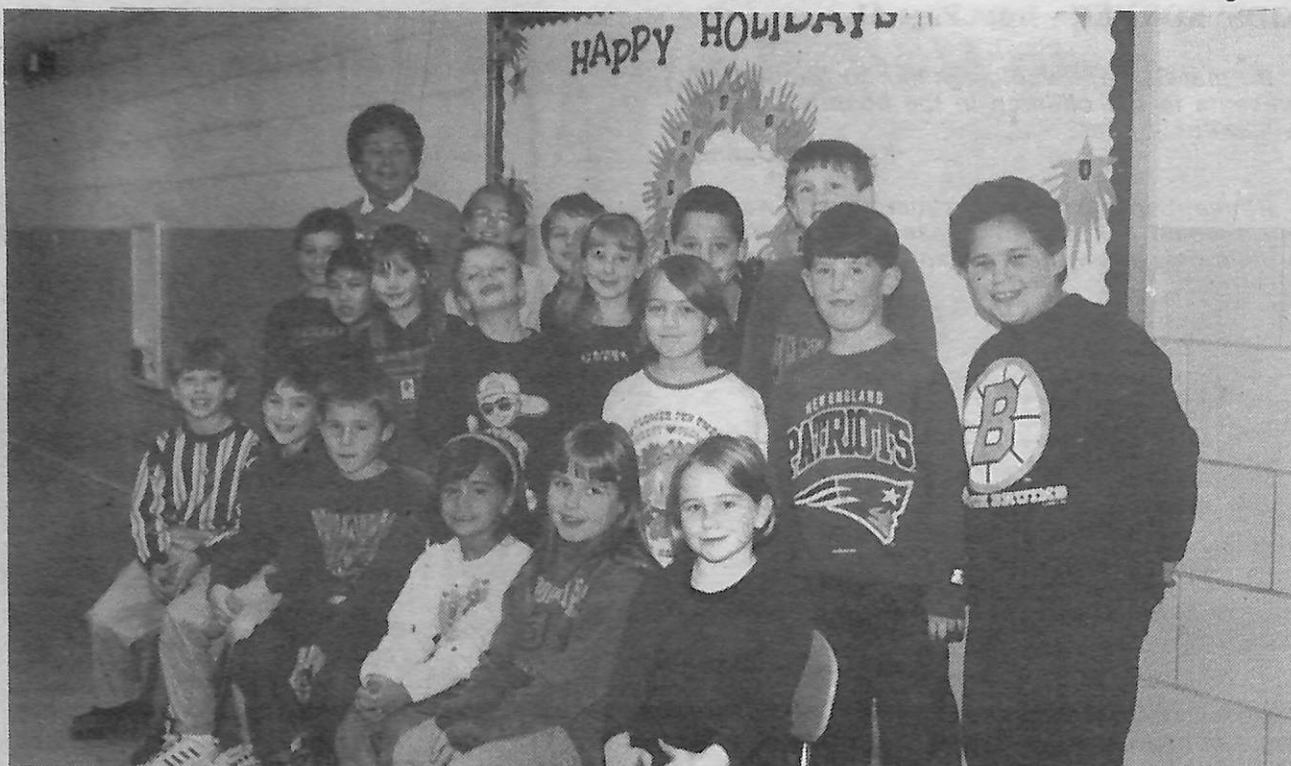
If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would give him my list of Christmas wishes. I would give his reindeer some carrots and apples for their long trip. I hope Santa will like the milk and cookies I give him.

Rebecca van Ossenbruggen

If I met Santa on Christmas Eve, I would ask him for a doll. I would take care of my new doll. I would ask him to bring presents to the poor people.

Lindsay Reed

SEE KIDS' KORNER - Page 42...



TEACHER ANNA CREAN (back row - far left) and her Room 4 second-graders pose in front of a yuletide bulletin board at Robinson Park School. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

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**KIDS' KORNER - from Page 41...**

If I met Santa, I would ask him to bring all my presents to the children in the hospital so they will all feel better.

**Kevin McDonnell**

If I met Santa, I would ask him how he was doing. I would ask him to please give me and my brother only a few presents and many to the poor children.

**Alexander Rodriguez**

## "We Saw Santa!"

by Grade 1, Room 5  
Miss Sylvia Ready's Class  
Robinson Park School

As a Christmas treat, Sylvia Ready's first-grade class went to Enfield Square in Enfield, CT, to see Santa Claus.

### Our Visit To Santa:

I asked Santa for a watch and a "Toy Story 2" toy. I enjoyed it when Santa Claus talked to me and gave me a hug.

**Angelino Placanico**

I asked Santa Claus for Extreme Super Rebound and Sky Driver.

**Joseph Gill**

I asked Santa for a "Toy Story 2" toy, Barbie doll, American Girl doll, and Game Boy Color Games. I liked Santa's Castle and the Christmas trees.

**Alycia Beavis**

I asked Santa Claus for computer games and the Beanie Baby "Erin." I liked Santa's Castle and the Christmas trees.

**Meaghan Foley**

I asked Santa Claus for a Furby, Pokemon cards, and Pokemon Game Boy.

**Patricia Taylor**

I asked Santa Claus for a Game Boy Color and Match Box Space. Santa Claus was great.

**Brian Moriarty**



**AT ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL: Room 5 first-graders with their teacher, Sylvia Ready.**

Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

I asked Santa for a Barbie doll and a surprise. I liked it when Santa gave us the reindeer ears.

**Kaitlyn Payette**

I asked Santa Claus for a Packman, Operation Bug, and a Santa Claus suit.

**Nicholas Tichy**

I asked Santa Claus for a Batman suit, remote control car, Pokemon video, the Beanie Baby "Scorch," stuffed animal reindeer, and a reindeer ring.

**Alexander Watkins**

I asked Santa for a Pokemon puzzle and Talking Bubba.

**Erin Langmaack**

I asked Santa Claus for a Baby Pluto, Newborn Jennifer, Adoption Kid Soccer Doll, and Easy Bake Oven. I liked Santa because he was nice.

**Cassandra Rivest**

I asked Santa Claus for Furby, Amazing Allie, and I thought Santa was very nice.

**Jessica Colson**

SEE KIDS' KORNER - Page 43...

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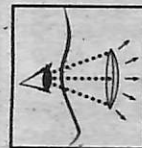
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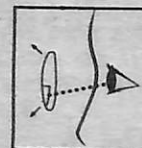
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**KIDS' KORNER - from Page 42...**

*I asked Santa for Mute Two Pokemon card and a surprise.*

**Kyle Ottomaniello**

*I asked Santa Claus for two Furby's, Easy Bake Oven, and remote control car.*

**Carina Allen**

*I asked Santa Claus for 10 pencils and a computer game. I loved Santa's Castle and the Christmas trees.*

**Niko Marchetti**

*I asked Santa Claus for Blastback Football, Nurf Power Bat, Underwater Bubba, and Operation Bug.*

**Brandon Redmond**

*I asked Santa Claus for Barbie and a surprise. Santa asked me if I liked surprises. I said, "Yes."*

**Rachel Commene**

## Open House/ Enrollment Evening At Perry Lane Nursery

The Agawam Perry Lane Nursery School will hold an Open House/Enrollment evening on January 18th at 108 Perry Lane, Agawam, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Children must be three years-old by September 30, 2000 to enroll in the Tuesday/Thursday morning session running from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. for three year-old children only. The cost for this session is \$60 registration fee a month due at the first of every month, with a \$3 snack fee a month to be paid in cash at the first of every month.

Children must be four years-old by September 30, 1999 to enroll in Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning or afternoon sessions running from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. The registration fee for this session is \$75 a month (to be paid at the first of every month), with a \$4 snack fee to be paid in cash at the first of every month.

Anyone interested in enrolling their child into the Perry Lane Nursery School for the September 2000 school year is encouraged to attend.

For more information or any questions, please call 821-0513 or 789-1616.

## A Native American Pow-Wow...



**AT BENJAMIN PHELPS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Miss Mardeusz's third-grade class celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional Native American Pow-Wow.**


## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, December 20th:** Personal round cheese pizza, tossed salad with spinach greens and dressing, chilled peaches in syrup, milk.

**Tuesday, December 21st:** Diced chicken pieces with gravy on whipped potatoes, seasoned diced carrots, bread and

butter, diced pears in syrup or sweet potato spice cake with icing, milk.

**Wednesday, December 22nd:** Cheeseburg in roll, oven potato wedges, catsup, seasoned green beans, strawberry Jello or pineapple tidbits, milk.



# Massachusetts Twisters

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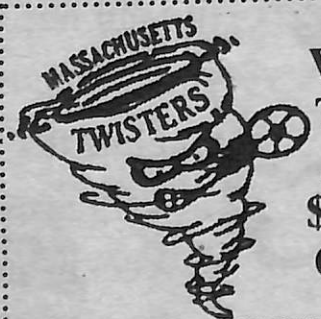
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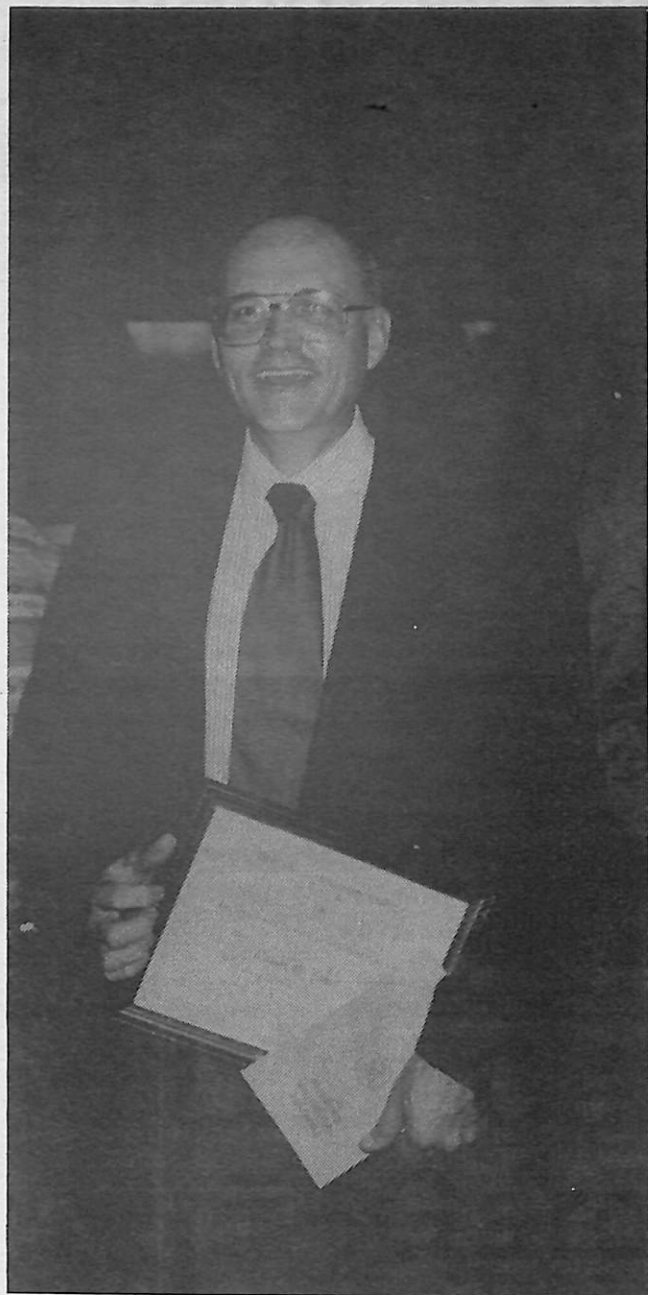
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## Congratulations!



ON DECEMBER 6TH, Richard Golas of Agawam (above) received the Outstanding Professional Staff Member award at Holyoke Community College. Golas, the Director of Athletics and Student Life, has been a member of the HCC college community for more than 20 years. He received a plaque and a cash award. Photo by Mary Ann Gazillo.

## Elizabeth Christian On Waterpolo Team At Bates College

Elizabeth F. Christian of Agawam competed on the 1999 Bates College waterpolo team.

The team plays a falls schedule against other collegiate clubs from around New England. Bates, the top Division III program in 1996, stresses excellent water fitness. Its team ended the 1999 season ranked ninth among Division III club teams.

Christian is a first-year student at Bates College. The daughter of James and Judith Christian of 78 Valentine Street, she is a 1999 graduate of The Loomis Chaffee School.

Located midway between the coast and mountains in south-central Maine, Bates is a 144 year-old undergraduate college of the liberal arts and sciences and is rated among the top 25 national liberal arts colleges by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Bates offers majors in 24 academic departments and eight interdisciplinary programs, and encourages independent study, research in collaboration with faculty members, and participation in off-campus programs.

**EARLY DEADLINE:**  
The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.

## Learning Science Can Be Fun...



THE SCOUTS OF PACK 77 were treated to a night of science at their November Pack meeting. Webelos Den 8, The Salmon Patrol, exhibited some of their science projects that helped earn them the scientist badge. Balloon-on-a-string races, spinning dripless water buckets, and an exploding plastic bag were just a few of the experiments demonstrated at the Pack meeting. Front row: Dan Matroni, Nick Sliech, Sean Walsh, Nick Abraham, Ryan Sullivan, Brett Barker, and Gary Theroux. Back row: Assistant Leader Kathy Walsh, Committee Chairman Ed Abraham, and Leader Marcia Barker. (Missing from photo: Nick Midura.)



### From The AHS Guidance Office...

by Judy Cohen  
Agawam High School  
Guidance Counselor

### Mirrors...

Each day I look into a mirror, although, I must be honest, I don't like doing it too often. I mean, is the reflection really me? What happened to the dark brown hair? What are those lines I see? The figure doesn't look the same to me.

What's going on? Is there a problem with the mirror? Anyway, as I look in the mirror, I do realize that what I see is a true reflection of me. So, one day as I was looking in the mirror, I started to think about reflections and mirrors and how much they relate to the kids I deal with and their parents.

Think of reflections...kids are really reflections of us parents. What they do, how they think, sometimes their looks. All of these reflect the parents with whom they live. So, what about us as parents? We must come to the realization that our children see what we are doing, often internalize it, and then mirror those actions. If they see us coming home and having a drink to relax, they figure it's o.k. for them to have a drink or use some other things in order to relax. After all, if parents, their mentors, can do it, they should be able to do it, too.

What about the kid who sees Mom and Dad yelling all the time? Often that kid mirrors those actions when he is dealing with his friends or teachers. To him, yelling is how to make his wants

known.

What about the child who sees physical abuse in the family? Many times, that youngster will start fighting in school, start abusing a boyfriend or girlfriend, and not feel that much remorse. He sees the behavior, internalizes it, and makes it his own.

What about the child who hears constant complaining, who never hears that the glass is half full, but rather has to listen to how empty it is all the time? What feelings does he take with him? Will he be optimistic or pessimistic as he goes through the day? Believe it or not, depression and pessimism are catchy! It's hard to be joyful in gloomy surroundings.

What about the child who sees parents get easily frustrated doing a task? The parents give up, say, "Why bother?" and go on to something else. What does this teach the child about perseverance? What does it teach him about asking for help, asking for explanations?

What about the youngster who hears parents blame their bosses for their troubles or perhaps blame their acquaintances for their troubles? In other words, they blame anyone but themselves for their troubles. Does this allow the youngster to take responsibility for his actions, or does it enable him to blame others and feel o.k. about doing this?

What about the kid who is the butt of constant put-downs? No matter what he tries to do, he is put down by a parent, rather than praised. Moreover, he hears one parent constantly putting down another. How is this child going to feel? What will his self-esteem be like?

Yes, children are often reflections of us. As parents, consider yourselves as mirrors. As your children look into the mirrors, what do you want them to see? How about love, understanding, and compassion, for starters? Many times, the reflections are lasting, so be mindful of what the mirror reflects. Positive reflections, or negative reflections ... as parents, the choice is yours.

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(Expires 12/31/99)





# Sports

## \* \* \* Winter Sports Preview \* \* \*

### AHS Girls' Basketball Preview...

## 1999-2000 Could Be A Challenge For The Brownies

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

It is the dawning of a new millennium, and also the dawning of a new age regarding Agawam High girls' basketball.

For the past decade and then some, the Brownies blazed through the rarified air of the Western Mass. hoop elite; rarely were they not picked to be a force in this area.

Leading the up-tempo bunch was Coach Lou Conte. Conte, a former star player at AHS and an outstanding teacher of the game (aside from being recognized as the best Division I coach in these parts), comes in with a 13-year record of 237 wins and 53 losses (81 percent). Along the way, the coach won eight league championships and three Western Mass. titles. The Brownies were the state runners-up in 1994.

This season could very well be the biggest challenge of his illustrious career. "I'm not sure it will be exactly that way. Physically, it will be the smallest team I've ever had and certainly the most inexperienced," he noted, then added, "It will definitely be a lot of fun to coach these kids."

What about the kids? Last year, with Barbara Maloni (All-Western Mass. Goodnow Award winner, 26.5 ppg, 18 three-pointers, 1,685 career points), six-foot Pia Bertone-Gross (10 points and eight rebounds a game), and 5'11" Melissa Cote (nine rebounds and 6.4 ppg) leading the way, they went 18-1 in the regular season and got all the way to the Western Mass. finals before losing to arch-rival Minnechaug Regional, 51-46, at the Mullins Center at UMass.

It was a heady season, laced with a 17-game winning streak (before Longmeadow beat them, 55-50, on February 16th) and Maloni's heroics of breaking the school's all-time scoring record. Along the way, they twice beat eventual Western Mass. champion and two-time state champion Minnechaug before losing in the finals to the Falcons.

### A Total Retooling Of Offense And Defense...

Now, it looks like a total retooling of both the offense and the defense. "We don't have the offensive threats we used to have. Everyone knows that. The kids will be asked to execute to the best of their ability," Conte said of a team that will



**JUNIOR LAURA BUCALO, a power forward, will be asked to compete at center this season against players far taller than she is.**

Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

welcome back only two starters — seniors Kate Shannon (1.4 ppg) and point guard Jill Gendron (6 ppg).

Also, there will be junior Laura Bucalo, a veteran who has been with the varsity since her freshman season. At 5'7", "Buc" is a power forward who is tough, has good inside skills, and floor savvy. She will be asked to compete at center this season against players far taller than she is.

After those three, it looks like the final two starting jobs (at presstime) are wide open. Junior Liz Stieg and seniors Sheri Benton and Jen Lyman have gotten good looks, along with two junior newcomers: 5'8" Sarah Lottermoser (center) and

5'6" forward Keegan Clark. "We are going to ask the kids to shoot more. Some of them are a little tentative, but that is mostly due to lack of experience," Conte noted.

The game plan right now is to push the ball up the floor, much as they've always done. "Our trademark has been up-tempo with a transition game. That won't change much," the coach added. He stressed that turnovers will be a byproduct of such an offense. "We want to keep our turnovers to under 15 a game," he said. Last year, they averaged 12.

The roster is rounded out by sophomore point guard Jenna Shea and freshman Vicky Taylor, a 5'9½" forward.

### Problems Could Arise Because Of Their Size...

Defensively, because of their size, problems could arise. "We know our opponents know that. We are quick, but maybe we don't have the one-on-one players of the past. Zone traps will be part of our defense. We'll switch from zone to man and box out down low. The critical thing for us this year is that we have to show a different defensive look at all times during a game. We cannot become predictable when the other team has the ball or they'll bury us," said Conte.

One of the biggest weapons for any team is execution of the three-point shot, especially when teams zone up against you. "We will see a lot of that this season," Conte admitted. In the past, Kristen Patterson, Amber Conte, and Maloni seemed to drain the trey whenever it was called for. Are there any downtown snipers in this year's group? "We'll see. But I think Jill (Gendron), Kate (Shannon), and Liz (Stieg) have the ability to hit them." Gendron, in particular, could be the one. She had seven last year.

Every team in the Valley Wheel will be a gut-check for the girls this season, with Minnechaug (Western Mass. champs, state semi-finalists), Longmeadow, and Amherst Regional leading the pack. "We want to win enough games to qualify for the tournament," the coach noted. "We'll be the dark horse now, which means some of the pressure will be off. Who knows what can happen?" he asked with a smile.

### AHS Hockey Preview...

## High-Scoring Brownies Blast Ludlow, 7-4

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' hockey team is ready for another run at the playoffs, a place they've been for the past three years.

Agawam's offensive antics from a year ago took no time to reappear in the season opener on Tuesday night, a wild 7-4 shootout victory over Ludlow High, last year's Berry Division co-champs.

Despite the seven goals, the debut of freshman goalie Ryan Zaczynski was a highlight of this independent contest. The youngster registered 27 saves and allowed the AHS offense to eventually overwhelm the Lions.

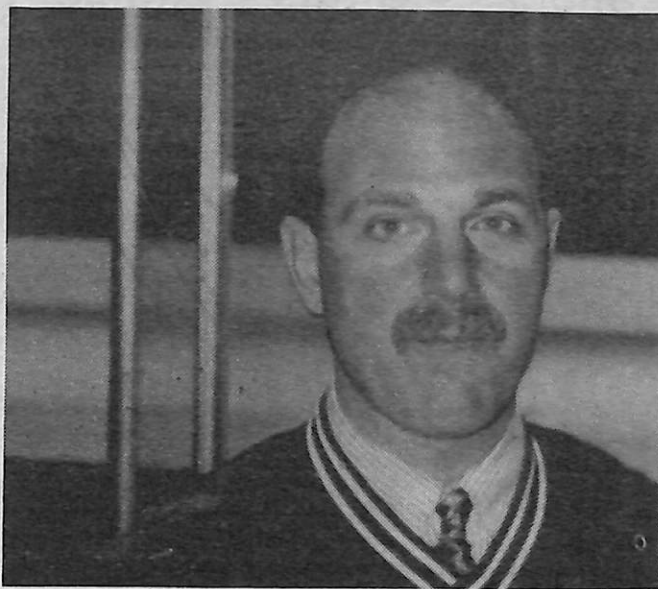
Leading the attack were high-scoring forward Tony LeClair with a goal and two assists; Mike Kosinski had a goal and three assists; and Brian Pagella with a pair of goals.

There is a new coach taking over for last year's 13-7-2 team, which went two deep into the tournament (beating Central High, 8-2, before falling 8-0 to Division III runner-up Longmeadow High).

Their new coach, John Cirelli, a seven-year assistant at the school, has also coached and taught youth hockey and played the game for over 20 years. He works for the City of Springfield and manages the Cyr Arena at Forest Park. Five local teams, including AHS, practice there.

"I know people might think I give us the best practice times. That's not true. Everyone gets their turn on the ice," he laughed.

"We can definitely get back to the playoffs," the coach said. "Our five seniors all have at least one year of tournament experience. And our juniors have been a force for a time as well," he added. The seniors are forwards Dave Gusek (20 goals, 14 assists), Brian Malanson, Brian Pagella, and defenseman Brian Gilhooly (a three-year starter). Goalie Derek Mercadante, recovering



**IN LEFT PHOTO: John Cirelli, the AHS hockey team's new head coach. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Star forward Tony LeClair. On Tuesday, December 14th — the season-opener — the Brownies defeated Ludlow High (last year's Berry Division co-champs), 7-4. Advertiser News**

photos by Dave Rollins.

from off-season shoulder surgery, may be back in January.

The juniors are headed up by All-Western Mass. forward Tony LeClair, who had 29 goals and 15 assists last year. Also in the mix will be defensemen Adam Sprague and Joe Case. "They are all very hungry. And our game plan, which includes end-to-end hockey, suits all of them," Cirelli said.



### Numbers A Consideration

One consideration the new coach will have to face is one the program has addressed for many years - numbers. "Again, we would like to have more kids on the ice. But we'll make do," Cirelli admitted.

SEE HOCKEY - Page 47...



## Boys' Basketball Preview...

# Brownies Hope To Improve On Last Season's Record

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' basketball team has had some lean pickings in the last two years, winning only six out of 34 games.

They last went to the playoffs in 1997, barely squeaking in before being blown out by Holyoke High in the first round. The coach then was Gary Grumoli and he was let go after last season. A new coach, Brian Alves, was hired to lead the team into the year 2000.

Grumoli notwithstanding, AHS boys' hoop last year was like something out of a surrealist painting - injuries, defections, and inexperienced players all combined on a canvas of commotion. Probably not even Dean Smith or Jim Calhoun could have fixed what transpired.

Alves has the ball now. He is the former coach of Granby High School. Under his three-year tutelage, the Rams went 37-23 and won the league championship (Tri-County at that time) three seasons in a row. Alves played for Chicopee High School (1989) and was a freshman and assistant varsity basketball coach there. He played and coached under present Pacers' mentor Paul Labrie.

"This will be interesting," Alves noted. "I played for Coach Labrie, coached under him, and now will coach against him." Alves is 28 years-old. "I can't say this with certainty, but I just might be the youngest coach in Division I," he smiled.

### Screaming For Salvation

This young coach will carry his credentials into a situation that screams for some salvation. Last season, Agawam was anything but consistent and had its share of interesting problems. Most of their losses were either big, or very slim. Until injuries snagged them, they were 2-0 before going on that horrendous 18-game swoon.

"We will sort things out this season. Our main goal is to make the tournament. This will definite-

ly be a rebuilding year. Though it sounds like a cliché and everyone seems to use it, we will have to work hard. That is the only way to success that I know of," Alves said.

Offense will not change for this team, according to the coach. "We will be up-tempo. We'll run in a transition game," he remarked.

"I've noted that the kids play better in that type of game, not just here, but all over Western Massachusetts. We have some great athletes in this area playing basketball. It's tough to stop them from doing what they do best on the playgrounds and clinics during the off-season. Also, it's fun to watch. The fans seem to enjoy that type of ball."

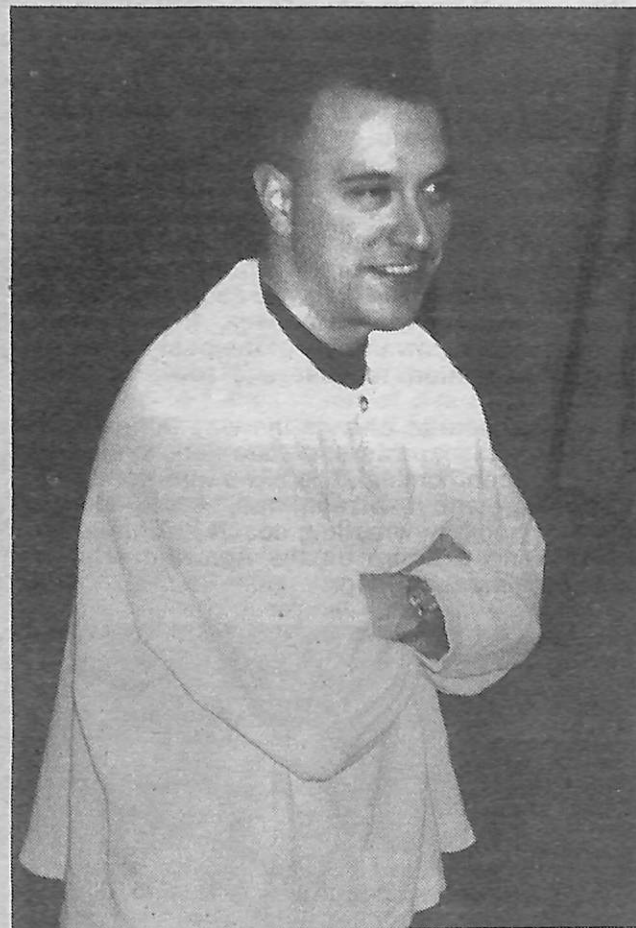
### Mostly Man-To-Man Defense

His defense will be mostly man-to-man. "We'll see the up-tempo game against us, which means an opportunity for turnovers. We'll need as many as we can get to stay competitive. And, of course, we'll have to limit ours as well."

The team lost six seniors. But he notes three kids who will bear watching - two are veterans, one is from the JV's. Lou Conte, a six-foot junior, will be an inside player. He is tough and got his baptism of fire last year when he came up as a sophomore to help the injury situation. "Lou has improved every time I've seen him. He's done it through hard work," Alves said.

Six-foot sophomore Sean Mercadante will be their point guard. "He'll run the show," Alves said. He is particularly keen on their two guard, 6'2" senior Joe Stellato. "Joe will have to put it up," the coach said, well aware of the fact that one of their weaknesses this year will be in the shooting department.

They'll open up their 20-game schedule Friday evening, December 17th at Hoosic Valley. Their first home game will be against Putnam, Tuesday, December 21st at 7:30 p.m.



**BRIAN ALVES** is the new head coach for the Agawam High School boys' basketball team.

Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

### HOCKEY - from Page 46...

So, with 17 skaters, they'll feature three lines on offense and send out three sets on defense. "The kids are tough and in great shape. An extra shift won't bother them all that much," he noted.

Cirelli believes the game starts in goal and works its way out. Last season they had a premier keeper in Mike Schmidt, who worked hard in the scheme of things. The team gave up 91 goals during the season, including the playoffs, for an average of 4.13 goals a game. It was a lot, but Agawam's style of wide open offense dictated the other team would get their opportunities. "We

have an outstanding freshman who will be in goal for us this year (Ryan Zaczynski). Watch him," Cirelli said.

The offense, which scored 111 times last year (5 gpg) won't be a problem. "The keys will be our faceoffs and puck control, something Agawam teams have always been very good at," Cirelli said.

The three-year Fay Division defending champs will have some fire and ice competition. "Ludlow, Minnechaug, West Springfield, and Westfield will be tough games," he noted.

"But," he added, "we can't afford to look past anyone. If we play within ourselves, we'll be back in the playoffs for sure."

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## Wrestling Preview...

## Parker Looks To Continue Tomkiel's Tradition

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

We will not dwell on former Agawam High wrestling Coach Phil Tomkiel's career.

The legend retired following the 1998 season. After all the accolades and honors, the great teams and individual stars he coached, his final words were thoughtful and short. "I've been at this for 25 years. I have nothing but outstanding memories. I want to enjoy my family more and grow more in my own right, in different directions," Tomkiel, 47, said last February.

Thus the gauntlet was thrown down. The man who picked it up is the best you could get to take over a program that has won the Western Massachusetts crown for 11 of the past 13 years - physical education teacher and town resident Kirk Parker.

"I am not here to change the way things have been. My goals in this sport are very similar to those of Coach Tomkiel. There is a tradition of excellence here and it will continue," said Parker, a veteran schoolboy wrestling coach in Enfield for 25 years and a figure on the Agawam athletic scene for almost as long.



**AHS WRESTLING COACH KIRK PARKER** makes a point during practice. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

## A Family Rich In Wrestling Tradition

Parker also comes from a family rich in wrestling tradition. His dad, Doug, was the head varsity wrestling coach at Springfield College for 35 years. Parker wrestled at Suffield Academy, Yale University, and Springfield. His sons, Derek and Kirk Jr., were members of the 1995 AHS State Champions.

But for a half-point at the sectionals last February, Agawam would have been the Western Mass. champion for the 12th time in 13 years. But Ludlow beat them, 221½-221 to grab the crown. "We won't think about that, because when a tournament comes down to 10 points or less, it becomes a crap shoot. Anyone can win," Parker said.

The Western Mass. wrestling title is becoming a jewel in the crown of many area athletic programs, according to Parker. "Over the past five years, we've seen parody coming to the sport. That's what makes the achievements of our program so significant."

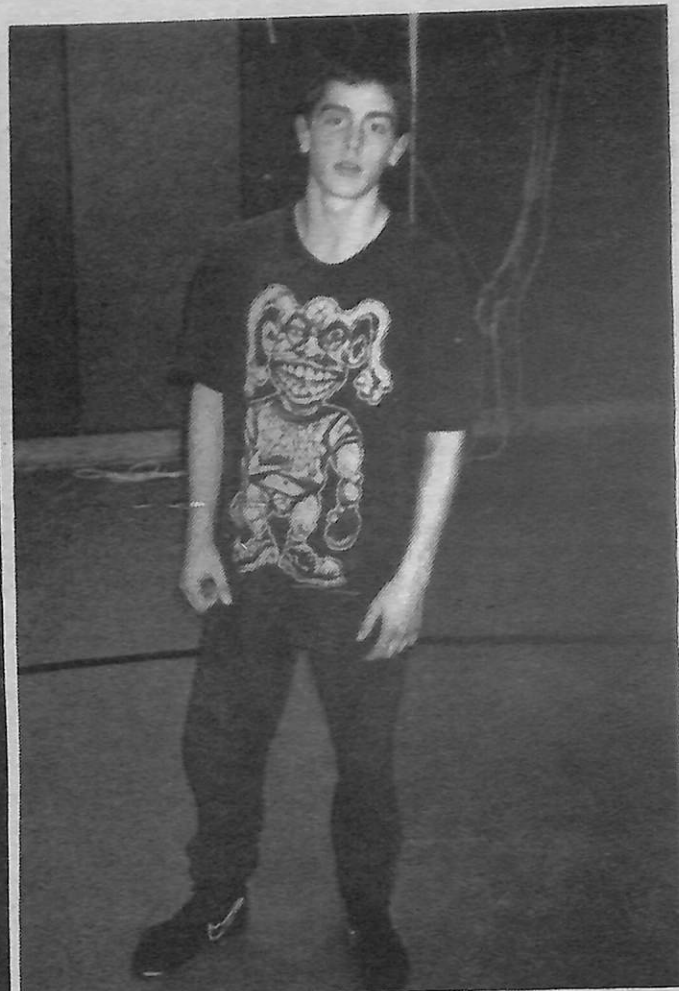
The Brownies have always had great wrestlers in every weight class. This year, however, the upper weights might be a problem. "That's true. From 171 pounds on up, we'll be looking for help," Parker admitted. He noted that former football player (senior) Jon Archambault at 215 will be a factor. "Jon is quick, smart, and an athlete. Those qualities will help him with us," Parker observed.

Agawam will have 32 wrestlers on this year's team. That's a little below average for them. "We are still looking for kids to come out. The door is always open," Parker said.

There are ones to watch. "I wish I could name everyone. But I know you only have so much space, so here are some of them," he smiled.

Starting in the 103's will be All Western Mass. performer **Eric Hogan**, a senior who finished first in the WMass Tournament. Freshman **Don Hare** will also be a force in the 103's. Senior **Dave Moore**, a two-time All Western Mass. standout who also took first in the 1999 tournament (and a tri-captain this year), will fill the 130 spot. Freshman **Paul Pilegi** looks to have a good showing in the 130's as well.

Senior **Brendan Blackak** should win his share in the 145's. Senior tri-captain **Matt Quirk** will also be a force in the 145's. The 160's for the Brownies will be anchored by two seniors, tri-captains **Kevin Grealis** and **John Silva**. **Aaron Gilbert** (senior), who



**IN LEFT PHOTO:** All-Western Mass. champion Dave Moore will be a force this year. **IN RIGHT PHOTO:** All-Western Mass. standout Eric Hogan is ready for a great season for the AHS wrestling team. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

placed third at 125 in last year's tournament, will move up to the 130's this season.

He also noted that Ludlow, who sweated blood to win its first Western Mass. crown last year, will be formidable and probably the favorite this season. And there are other teams who will be factors as well, including Central and long-time rival West Springfield.

## Correct Match-Ups Key To Success

Parker believes one key to a successful season is the coach's ability to match-up wrestler to wrestler in every weight class. "It's so crucial to do that. You want your best against maybe not their best. You want your developing kids against their developing kids, who maybe aren't developing as fast. You have to cover all possibilities. Coach Tomkiel was a master at that," said Parker. There is another factor working for the

Brownies' wrestling program - former wrestlers who return to help out in the coaching category. "We have Chris Chechile here as an assistant. Adam Blair is back to help out. Both of them are former All Western Mass. wrestlers," he noted. Also, the coach's two sons, both former All Western Mass. performers, try to get involved. Derek, now at UMass, has been back. Kirk, after two years at Springfield College, is also helping out.

"The contribution from all those coming back is so important for us. They can get down on the mat and wrestle with the kids. Their experience in regards to what to do in all situations, what hold to employ, what method of escape you need, and the correct mindset help out tremendously," the coach noted.

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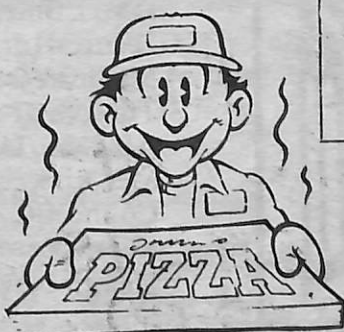
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Profile...

## Matt Quirk Believes The Wrestling Team Will Be Strong For The 1999-2000 Season

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Despite the tough 1999 fall season endured by the Agawam High boys' soccer team, one kid who never stopped playing as hard as he could (all the time) was Matt Quirk.

Matt, a senior and one of the team's captains, recently took some time out to talk about his days at AHS.

Matt turned 17 on July 24th. He stands 5'8" tall and weighs in at 145 pounds. He has spent all four years of his secondary education at AHS. Currently, his curriculum includes horticulture, environmental science, chemistry, physics, math, sociology, and English 12.

Matt is on the honor roll and is a member of the Renaissance Club.

His favorite course is psychology. He has two top teachers; Ed Merrill (psychology) and Lynn Litchfield (history, sociology). Matt plans to attend UMass next year with a major in environmental science and forestry.

Matt is a two-sport participant at Agawam High. Besides soccer, he also wrestles in the 145-pound class for the powerful AHS wrestling team. Currently, the wrestling team is working out in preparation for its 1999-2000 season.

Matt sees the soccer campaign just past as one of high expectations which never quite got off the ground. "We had a lot of injuries and the whole thing was a letdown," he noted.

About the rapidly approaching wrestling year, the senior was more upbeat. "Wrestling is my sport. Even as I'm talking to you, I'm wearing my wrestling jacket my parents got for me last year," he laughed. "We'll still be strong," he said of the team that has won 11 Western Mass. titles in the past 13 years. "We have Ludlow on our minds," he admitted, still remembering the Lions' thin 221½-221 win over them in last year's Western Mass. finals.

The Brownies have a big date with Ludlow on Wednesday, December 29th at Kibbe Gym.



MATT QUIRK, one of the wrestling team's tri-captains.

Matt's most memorable sports moment was last season when he took second in the 140's at the prestigious Milford Schoolboy Wrestling Tournament.

His favorite food is Chinese and Hong Kong special fried rice.

Irish green is his number one color.

He likes muscle cars, with his top ride being a 427, AC Cobra (the two-seater, not the Detroit Ford variety). He doesn't own one right now. (But maybe we can get his dad, Kevin, to spring for one as a graduation gift.)

Matt doesn't have a favorite athlete, per se. But he does have a favorite fan - his dad, who is known by all Brownie fans for his enthusiasm.

Matt's top sports team is his own Agawam High wrestling squad, who will be working this season under new, but veteran Coach Kirk Parker.

Matt likes to hang out at Dunkin' Donuts in Feeding Hills Center or at Fitness First Health Club just down the street. "Several days a week I go down to Fitness First at five in the morning, before school, to work out," he said.

He likes casual clothes bought from American Eagle up at the Holyoke Mall.

Metallica and Garth Brooks are tops on the tune parade for Matt.

"The Simpsons" and "Married With Children" catch his attention on the tube while "Vision Quest," which is almost a mantra for schoolboy wrestlers, is his favorite flick.

Kevin is his dad. Pam is his mom. He has a younger brother, Dan (15), who is a sophomore at the High School.

Matt doesn't really look up to anyone. But he does like to get close to his dog, Riley. "She's just a mutt, part Shepherd, part Rottweiler. But she's part of the family," he smiled.

When his days at AHS are done, Matt wants to be remembered thusly: "I was one of the better wrestlers at the school and I was a very intense person."

Soccer Coach Glenn Olson said this about Matt: "He was a very driven and determined kid for us - a very can-do type of person. He would take our losses and anything that didn't go right for the team very personally."

Profile...

## Jen Lyman Is Ready To "Step Up" For The AHS Girls' Basketball Team

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Veteran Agawam High girls' basketball player Jen Lyman should see a vastly expanded role for the Brownies in the 1999-2000 season. Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about her days at AHS.

Jen turned 17 on September 30th. She has been at Agawam High all four years. Currently, Jen is taking AP English, AP biology, advanced math, culinary arts, gym, and yearbook, where she is the sports editor. The senior is also a member of the National Honor Society and the Renaissance Club. Jen has been the Class of 2000 secretary for the past three years.

Psychology is her favorite course at the High School and Edward Merrill, who teaches it, is her top instructor.

Jen would like to pursue a career as a dental hygienist. Right now, she is looking at STCC or the University of New Haven. She would also like to give Division II soccer a try.

Jen is a three-sport athlete at AHS. Besides soccer (where she was captain), there's basketball now and softball in the spring. Though soccer is her favorite sport, softball has given Jen her top sports moment. "It had to be our 1998 Western Mass. Championship," she smiled.

She has this take on the 1999 girls' soccer season: "We had a lot of talent, but just couldn't put it together for more wins than we got." Basketball looks like this to her. "It will be a challenge. We have no great shooters and no real stars. Everyone will have to step up this year," she



JEN LYMAN

added of the Brownies, who are coming off a Western Mass. title appearance a year ago.

One of her favorite foods is chips and medium salsa.

Blue is her favorite color.

A 1999 black Ultima is Jen's car of choice.

United States soccer star Mia Hamm is her top jock.

Jen likes to relax with her friends.

She enjoys casual clothes and usually buys them at American Eagle or Old Navy up at the Holyoke Mall.

Lauren Hill is her top musical artist. "I like all kinds of music, even country," she said.

"Dawson's Creek" and "Jack and Jill" are her top television shows. "The Rock" is her big screen favorite.

David and Diana are her mom and dad. Jen has two brothers; Jeff, who graduated from AHS in 1998, and Matt (13), who is an eighth-grader at the Middle School.

Connie Passburg, Jen's grandmother on her mom's side, is the person she looks up to. "She is so sweet and loves me so much," Jen smiled.

When her days at AHS are done, Jen would like to be remembered as an athlete who gave it everything she had.

Girls' basketball Coach Lou Conte had this to say regarding Jen: "She's a hard worker and a team player. We are happy to have her with us."

**EARLY DEADLINE: The deadline for ALL articles, ads, etc., for our Christmas edition is Monday, December 20th, at 12:00 noon.**

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*Schoolgirl Basketball...*

## Brownies Bow To Cathedral, 27-15, At Hoop Tourney

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The faithful got a sneak preview of the 1999-2000 Agawam High girls' basketball team last week at the Cathedral High pre-season hoop tournament. What they saw was not what they'd been used to seeing over the past decade. Gone were the greats of yesteryear - Kristen Schmaelzle, Kristen Patterson, the Cote sisters, the Scaggs sisters, Amber Conte, Pia Bertone-Gross, Barbara Maloni, Karen Patterson (current JV coach), Joy Clark, Steph Mason, Laura Bielitz, Kim Trudel, Lori DeSimone, Cindy Stone, and Tracey Trudel. The team that lost, 27-15, to the Panthers was truly a blue-collar group who are tenacious on defense, but need work on offense.

Even though the game in the tournament format lasted only 16 minutes, they were minutes of revelation to folks used to seeing a dominant Brownie five wiping up the floor with their opponents. The Panthers, whom Agawam defeated twice last season and have creamed in the past, are basically the same team this time around.

The Brownies were the ones showing a different look. Size was not there. And it was obvious the offense was tentative. The Brownies put it up 18 times from the field and canned seven shots (38 percent). They were 1-3 from the line. Many times they had a shot, but didn't take it. Coach Lou Conte took the game in stride, however. "Yeah, they're inexperienced. We still don't have our starting five in place yet," he said afterwards.

### Everyone Getting A Look

The coach gave everyone a good look. The Brownies and the Panthers both played man-to-man for the bulk of the game, which translated into turnovers, especially for Agawam (14). But, to their credit, they were hustle miscues, brought about by knowing what you wanted to do, but not quite sure of how to do it. "We need many more hours on the practice court," Conte observed.

After scrambling to a 6-all tie with 5:45 gone, Agawam fell behind, 8-6, with 9:55 to go and just couldn't come back.

Despite the abbreviated loss, some Brownies showed flashes of inspiration, which had to help boost the coach's confidence level in them. Junior newcomer Keegan Clark scored four points and had a nifty steal and played some tough defense. Veteran junior frontliner Laura Bucalo and another veteran, senior Jen Lyman, double-teamed the Cathedral shooters when they went low.

Freshman Vicky Taylor, senior Liz Stieg (4 points), and junior Sarah Lottermoser continually worked the low post and baseline in an attempt to get some offense going.

But the Panthers, picked by some to be one of the better girls' teams in Western Mass. and helped by only eight turnovers, were steadier than the visitors all game long.

### Encouraging Board Work By The Brownies

One encouraging aspect of the game, however, had to be the Brownie board work. Despite a slight height disadvantage, Agawam out-rebounded the Panthers, 11-6. They were led by Bucalo (4) and Stieg (4).

At this writing, Agawam was preparing for a tournament at Longmeadow High, which will involve the Lancers, Monument Mountain, and Wahconah. That tournament will conclude Friday evening at Agawam High.

**GAME STATS:** AGAWAM - Stieg - 2-4 - 4; Clark - 2-4 - 4, 2 REBS; Bucalo - 1-2 - 2, 0-1 4 REBS; Gendron - 0-2, 1-2, 2 1 REB; Shannon - 1-2 - 2, 4 REBS; Shea - 1-2 - 2. **TURNOVERS** - 14. Points allowed off TO's - 4. **REBOUNDS** - 11, 2 OFF; FT's 1-3.

**CATHEDRAL** - FG's 11-19 (57 percent); FT's 3-3; REBS - 6, 2 OFF; TO's - 8; Points allowed off TO's - 4.

\* \* \*

*Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Thank you!*



**MEMBERS OF THE AHS boys' ski team are ready to take to the slopes for the 1999-2000 season.**

### Schoolboy Skiing...

## Brownies Are Busy Practicing And Demonstrating Their Work Ethic

No snow has not stopped the Agawam High boys' ski team from starting practice. They are spending their time in the gym lifting weights and running or at the Junior High in the pool, getting in shape.

Many afternoons you can find them at the Curran-Jones Funeral Home across from the High School in-line skating in their parking lot. Coach Olson says that in-line skating is the closest thing to ski racing without being on snow. They are also planning a training camp at Mount Snow over Christmas vacation.

The team will be led by senior captain Jack Pearson and returning juniors Nick Broska, Bill Campana, Tim Chretien, Sean DeVall, Brandon

Donovan, Adam Escobar, and Jim Evans. Also returning is sophomore Adam Tapley. Joining the team this year are freshmen Brian Marsh and Ryan Patenaude.

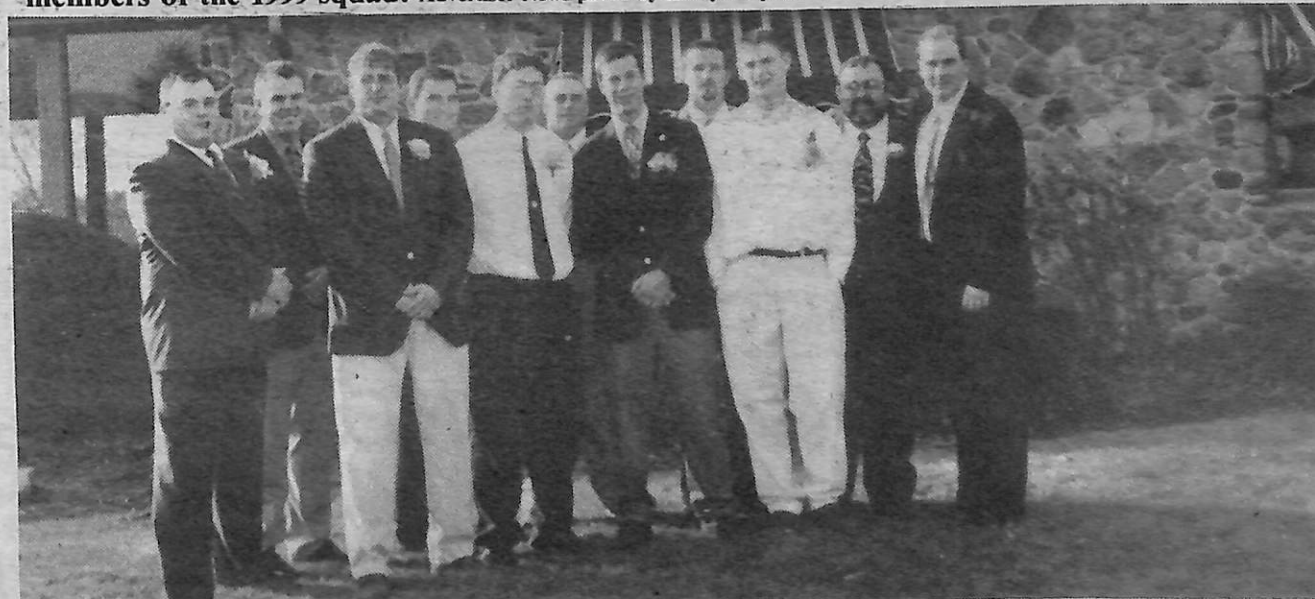
Coach Olson expects a lot from this group because of their work ethic. They have a strong desire to qualify for the States in March, which will take beating perennial "A" division powers Westfield or Mohawk.

It will also take overcoming their own relative youth and inexperience, but the coach feels they can do it. The season opens in early January with meets at Berkshire East in Charlemont, MA. A pre-season jamboree is scheduled for December 21st, also at Berkshire East.

## Football Banquet At Oak Ridge...



**AT THE AHS VARSITY FOOTBALL BANQUET held on December 5th at Oak Ridge Golf Club: Managers Nicole Koehler and Carianne Bussolari with the coaching staff and the senior members of the 1999 squad. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.**



**FOOTBALL COACHES AND CAPTAINS at the post-season banquet (from left to right): Mike Donovan, John Benjamin, Tad Desautels, Armando Ramos, John Archambault, Bruce Bussiere, Dennis Liptak, Chris Benjamin, Victor Ramano, Kirk Parker, and Rick Jewell. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.**





**Outdoors  
New  
England**

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### Time To Sharpen The Ice Auger...

Even though safe ice is yet a ways away, it's about time to make sure that your ice augers are sharpened and ready for the upcoming ice fishing season. Don't wait until your buddy calls and wants to go the next day. If you send your blades out to get sharpened, you may have to wait for several days or more.

Dust off your tip-ups and replace that old line that may have weakened over time. While on the

### In Tri-Parish Bowling Action...

## A "Merry" St. Louis Team Continues To Lead In Round Three

On Monday, December 6th, St. Louis continued on its merry way by overcoming Georgetown, 4-1. It was a close match, with only four pins separating the two teams in the first and third strings. Georgetown won the first, but St. Louis took the third.

Total pins for the night showed a difference of only 14. Debbie "Mighty" Poirier rolled three good strings for a 347 total in a losing cause. Jim "Big Mac" McCormack pinned a mighty 353 to help Glen "Not Sam" Adams (who rolled a 343) to the win.

Fordham whitewashed Boston College, 4-0, to go into second place. It was a good team effort because anchor "Jolly" Oilly Muldrew only needed to bowl 326 to edge out opposing anchor Betsy "Loaded" Cannon's third and cement the win.

It was a bad night for Roger "The Rabbit" Josephson. He could only manage one string over 100 and finished with a lowly 273. (Maybe he needs a new battery!)

Catholic University tied Holy Cross, 2-2, to slide a little in the standings. Ron "The Don" Menard led HC with a 324 night. Kathy "Big Cat" Burlingham had a 332, and Jim "Jimbo" Lambert pitched in with a 123 single and a 305 total for CU.

Marsha "Smiley" Dobie had one of those nights; she barely got over a 200 total, and was seen muttering to herself as she left the alley.

St. Mary took the measure of Notre Dame, 3-1. Each team bowled without their anchor bowlers, and it was Don "Reb" Stitt who came up with a big night to carry the winners. "Reb" ran strings of 109, 131, and 121 for a 361.

Mary "Not Marlo" Thomas helped with a 315. Cori "Lefty" Napolitan tried to keep up with "The Reb" by rolling a 326, but fell a little short. Maybeth "Miss Consistent" Coughlin was up to her usual tricks by rolling another 303 series to keep ND close, but a big second string team effort by St. Mary was the clincher.

#### STANDINGS

St. Louis	15-5
Fordham	11-9
Catholic University	11-9
St. Mary	10-10
Georgetown	10-10
Holy Cross	9-11
Notre Dame	7-13
Boston College	7-13

## Agawam Parks & Rec. Has "Group Nights" For Falcons Hockey

The Springfield Falcons, a professional hockey team, is pleased to announce **Group Nights** sponsored by the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department, to be held once a month through April of 2000.

On all dates, your Recreation Department will offer **ONE GREAT DISCOUNTED PRICE TICKET OF \$7** for either adults or kids, with 50 cents of each ticket sold going back to your Recreation Department for other recreation activities!

The Recreation Department has tickets for all games available now, and they may be purchased at any time up to 24 hours prior to the game. Please call the Recreation Department at 821-0513 for more information.

subject of line, a word of caution is in order for ice fishermen. Those new super braid lines such as Spider Wire and Fireline are a great aid to sensitivity and "feel."

However, these new lines can cut through flesh faster than a chainsaw through butter. This is probably not a problem when icing a 12-inch perch, but a good bass or northern pike is capable of making a strong run.

If you are retrieving line hand-over-hand, you could be in store for line cuts like you have never imagined. Even your gloves and mittens will not offer much protection.

A big fish stripping line could make handling some of these "super braids" like grabbing on to the blade of a bandsaw.

#### THE WRONG SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN

Hunting and fishing buddies George Powling and Phil Lee teamed up with yours truly for the last day of shotgun season here in the Bay State. The top of the ridge was wind-whipped and devoid of "sign." George hunted the area around the midpoint of the slope, while Phil covered the bottom of the ravine. After the grey of dawn lifted and the brightness of day emerged, a shot from the other

side of the beaver pond rang out.

Phil had downed a nice six-pointer. The only problem was it was on the wrong side of the hill, deep in the laurel thickets. It was a long, steep, uphill drag to level ground before the mile back to camp could be tackled.

A cooperative effort resulted in Phil and his trophy making it out before lunch. Congrats, Phil!

#### WINTER COD FISHING REPORT

Capt. Joe Huckmeyer of the Helen-H out of Hyannis reports that the trips that can get out, weather permitting, are doing just fine. Recent trips have shown cod in the 40-pound bracket with good numbers of market-size cod being taken on some of his offshore wrecks and hot spots.

The wintertime often sees some of the biggest fish of the year. Give Capt. Joe a call and bundle up for some fun!

#### LET'S HEAR FROM OUR READERS

If you have an interesting outdoors story or photos of your successful hunting or fishing trip, send them in to us. Sportsman's clubs are invited to share their club news and special event announcements. Send the stuff to Outdoors New England, c/o The Agawam Advertiser News.

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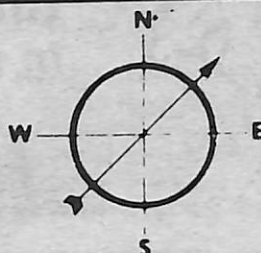
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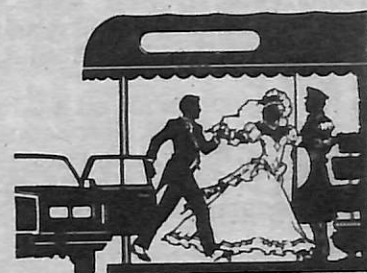
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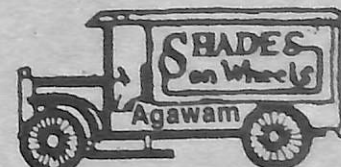
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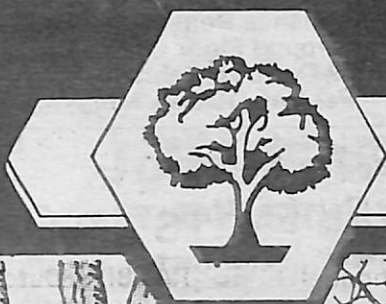
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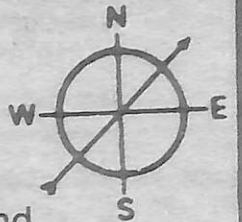
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**HELP WANTED:** Immediate full-time openings on second and third shifts. Must be flexible, willing to learn, capable of working safely in a heavy industrial environment and have a solid work record. Excellent pay and benefit package, including weekly production bonus and regular OT. Applications accepted 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m., M-F, at Hazen Paper Company, 240 South Water Street, Holyoke, MA 01040, or mail your resume or a letter to us.

**HELP WANTED:** Library Technician/Circulation Librarian, part-time, \$6.75/hr., 4:15 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday and Saturday, 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. High School diploma. Experience working with the public in service capacity a plus. Responsibilities include: checking materials in and out, processing books, telephone and in-person customer service. Excellent communication skills, good manners and a positive attitude essential. Apply in person at Southwick Public Library, 95 Feeding Hills Rd. (Rte. 57), Southwick, MA. Position open until filled. No telephone calls. ADA compliant/EOE employer.

**HELP WANTED:** Asst. Librarian — Responsible, flexible individual to conduct daily operations under the director of a library serving a growing, 8,000-plus community. BA/BS Degree or Associate's Degree with 5 years library experience. Financial, supervisory, human resources, programming experience all a plus. Salary in the \$24,000-\$26,000 range. Letter of intent, resume, 3 professional references by December 27, 1999 to: Director, Southwick Public Library, P.O. Box 319, Southwick, MA 01077. ADA compliant/EOE employer.

**WANTED — EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT:** Suffield Public Schools is seeking a full-time/school year Special Educational Assistant/Child Specific. Salary in accordance with C.I.L.U. Contract (starting rate \$9.35/hour). Call (860) 668-3801, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., for application information. Open Until Filled.

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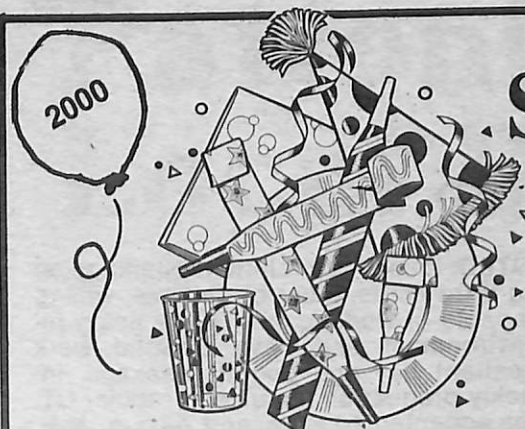
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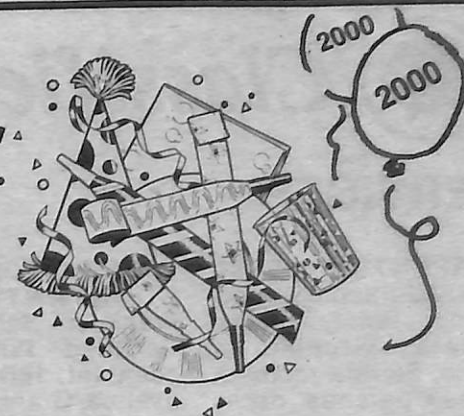




# Southgate Liquors, Inc.

842 Suffield Street (Route 75)  
Agawam

**MILLENNIUM MADNESS!!!**



<b>Cutty Sark</b> (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$24.99</b>	<b>Coors</b> Reg. & Light <b>\$16.99</b> P.D. (30-Pac- Cans)	<b>Bella</b> <b>Spumante</b> <b>\$3.99</b> (750 ml.) <i>Imported From Italy</i>	<b>Lite</b> (18-Pack Btls.) <b>\$11.99</b> P.D.	<b>Ernest &amp; Julio Gallo</b> <b>White</b> <b>Zinfandel</b> <b>3/\$9.99</b> (750 ml.)
<b>Columbia Crest</b> <b>Varietal Wines</b> <b>\$1.00 Off</b> (Every 750 ml.)	<b>Rolling</b> <b>Rock</b> Long Necks <b>\$14.99</b> P.D.	<b>Smirnoff</b> <b>Vodka</b> <b>\$7.99</b> (80 Proof - 750 ml.)	<b>Sandy Scot</b> <b>Scotch</b> <b>\$13.99</b> (1.75 Ltr.)	<b>Fleischmann's</b> <b>Gin</b> <b>\$10.99</b> (1.75 Ltr.)
<b>Coors</b> Extra Gold <b>\$10.99</b> P.D. (30-Pk. Cans)	<div> <b>Gift Sets</b> <b>In Stock:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chivas Regal Glass Sets</li> <li>• Glenlivet Glass Sets</li> <li>• Drambuie With Crystal Decanter</li> <li>• Courvoisier V5 Glass Sets</li> <li>• O'Mara's Cream Glass Sets</li> <li>• Charbord With Champagne Flutes</li> <li>• Crown Royal Glass Sets</li> <li>• Bacardi Limon With Glasses</li> <li>• Bolla 2 Btls. &amp; 3 Btls.</li> <li>• Bolla 4 Btls. In Wood Case</li> <li>• Luna De Luna In Wood Case</li> <li>• Martini &amp; Rossi With Fluted Glasses</li> </ul> </div>			<b>Almaden</b> "Party In A Box" <b>\$12.99</b> (5 Ltrs.) <i>Half White Zinfandel, Half Chardonnay</i>
<b>Rolling</b> <b>Rock</b> <b>\$9.99</b> P.D. (18-Pack Cans)				<b>Old</b> <b>New England</b> <b>Egg Nog</b> <b>\$5.99</b> (Ltr.)
<b>Foster's</b> From Australia <b>\$9.99</b> P.D. (12-Pack Btls.)	<b>Fleischmann's</b> <b>Pref.</b> <b>Whiskey</b> <b>\$12.99</b> (1.75 Ltr.)	<b>Bacardi</b> <b>Limon</b> <b>\$9.99</b> (750 ml.)	<b>Milwaukee's</b> <b>Best</b> <b>\$9.99</b> P.D. (30-Pack Cans)	<b>Peter Vella</b> (5 Ltr. Box) <b>Low Tier - \$7.99</b> <b>High Tier - \$10.99</b>
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<b>Seagram's</b> <b>V.O.</b> <i>Special - \$18.99</i> <i>M.I. Rebate - \$4.00</i> <b>Net - \$14.99</b> (1.75 Ltr.)	<b>Pete's</b> <b>Wicked</b> <b>Winter Brew</b> <b>\$9.99</b> P.D. (12-Pack Btls.)	<b>Molson</b> <b>Golden Or Ice</b> <b>\$6.99</b> P.D. (12-Pack Cans)	<p align="center">— Great Gifts —</p> <p align="center"><b>Pete's Wicked "Sampler"</b> (12-Packs) <b>Sam Adams Winter Classics</b> (12-Packs) <b>Now In Stock!!!</b></p>	

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your patronage in 1999 and wish all a happy, healthy, and prosperous millennium!*